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Day out ideas

Four-page guide on where to go, what to do

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Judo team's return is haul of gold medals

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RAILWAY CELEBRATES £250k RENOVATION

By Andrew Turton

A MAJOR £250,000 renovation project has been completed at the Severn Valley Railway.

The three-month long project involved replacing worn-out tracks and drains along the length of the Bewdley Tunnel.

And officials at the heritage railway said the project was their toughest challenge yet. Around 100 workers, half of whom were unpaid enthusiasts, took part in the project, contending with difficult conditions in the dark and cramped single bore tunnel.

They also often faced sub-zero temperatures and the ogistical headaches of getting equipment to the isolated stretch.

On Monday the completion of the project was marked with a trackside ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Well-wishers and guests emerged from carriages pulled by a 1930s Great Western tank, at the mouth of the 480-yard long tunnel for the event.

Labour

The ribbon was symbolically cut in front of the locomotive before it was tied to the engine to continue its journey from Kidderminster to Bewdley station.

The gathering paid homage to the traditions of the navvies who built Britain's railways back in the 1800s, and held parties at the end of major engineering works.

The railway's visitor service manager David Mee said: "It has been a labour of love for everyone who has been part of this project."

Officials at Severn Valley Railway have spent more than £1.5 million on track and civil engineering projects in the last three-and-a-half years.

At the ribbon-cutting ceremony, front, Holdings Company Chairman Nick Paul, with Bob Clift and Nick Ralls. Centre, Matthew Harris, Phil Crosby and Neil Dancer. Back, Dave Evans and Kevin Cronin

The Great Western complete with its ribbon, for the reopening of the railway's Bewdley Tunnel

Guests at Kidderminster station before the trip through the tunnel

Driver Dave Evans with Kevin Cronin

Price is agreed on castle

A CAMPAIGN group has reached a deal to buy a castle near Kidderminster.

The Hartlebury Castle Preservation Trust has agreed a price for the historic building with the Church Commissioners.

The group wants to buy the castle to make sure it stays open to the public.

Members now hope to submit a fresh bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund and will be holding fundraising events.

The grade I listed castle was once home to the Bishop of Worcester.

The group's chairman Alison Brimelow attended a meeting with the Church Commissioners. And Preservation Trust member Simon Denton told the group's supporters on Twitter that a deal had been reached.

A full statement was due to be issued by the Preservation Trust.

Student Becky in The Voice success

Becky Hill wins through

KIDDERMINSTER student Becky Hill is celebrating having reached the live stages of the BBC's hit singing show The Voice.

The 18-year-old excelled in the sing-offs round. But two Black Country hopefuls were not as successful.

Black Country Museum worker Lindsey Butler of West Bromwich, lost out to Matt and Sueleen, while Dudley barmaid Jenny Jones was defeated in Saturday night's sing-off with Joelle Moses.

As part of Team Jessie, Becky went head-to-head with pop duo Indie and Pixie in their battle performance of Irreplaceable by Beyoncé.

Judge Danny wasn't impressed with Pixie and Indie and said he would pick Becky if it was his choice, but will.i.am surprisingly said he would choose the duo. After much deliberation Jessie selected Becky.

M&S store to be enlarged

THE Marks & Spencer store in Kidderminster is being refurbished which will see it almost double in size.

The extended store will include a larger cafe, a new-look food hall and for the first time, home accessories.

The improvements are due to be completed this summer.

Managers say they will try to keep disruption to a minimum during the work, and the store will continue to trade as normal.

Verdict on incinerator delayed by new laws

A DECISION on a controversial £120m incinerator near Kidderminster has been delayed.

New planning laws mean that a decision on whether to give the incinerator the go-ahead has had to be delayed by three months.

An announcement was expected within a matter of day but the Government has said that the new Planning Policy Framework had held up the process.

The proposals for Hartlebury Trading Estate must now be opened up to comments from the public with regard to the new laws.

This means a decision is now expected on or before July 19.

A report has been drawn up by an inspector for Communities Secretary Eric Pickles after an eight-day public inquiry was held last November.

The development was granted by Worcestershire County Council in March but the plans were called in by Mr Pickles amid concerns.

Around 2,300 people have signed a petition and there has been 1,100 letters of objection about the plans for the incinerator.

Appeal after cars in crash

POLICE this week appealed for information from anyone who witnessed a head-on collision involving two vehicles in Kidderminster.

It happened on the Worcester Road near Victoria Carpets at about 11.35pm on Thursday, April 12.

A grey Peugeot 406 was in a collision with a black Audi A3.

The male drivers were both injured and taken to Hospital.

Anyone with information is asked to contact police on 0300 333 3000, quoting incident reference 669-S-120412.

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Packed church honours 'larger-than life' Betty

MORE than 400 mourners gathered at a memorial service for a retired teacher who was stabbed and beaten to death at her Bewdley home.

The town came to a standstill as family and friends paid emotional tributes to Betty Yates, who died in January aged 77.

Her children, 53-year-old Hazel Costello, from Staffordshire, and 51-year-old David Yates, of Berkshire, spoke to the congregation of their mother's "larger than life" personality.

An extra 50 chairs had to be laid out in the aisles at St Anne's Church, Load Street, to accommodate people at last week's service.

It was arranged by her family as they were too upset to hold a large funeral after Mrs Yates was found dead at her remote cottage in Dowles Road.

Lesley Betts, a friend of Mrs Yates, said she was "good fun and always saw the good in people".

Betty Yates' daughter, Hazel Costello, meets mourners

The son of Betty Yates, David, arrives at the memorial service

Betty Yates – memorial

Proud

She added: "Betty would have hated to leave the cottage. The isolation was its charm and she never felt threatened there.

"She was so proud of her family and would always mention what happy times she had with them all."

Mrs Yates taught at St John's C of E School, Kidderminster, and Foley First School, Streetly.

She was also an active member of the Wyre Forest University of the Third Age, an activities group for older people.

George Perkin, a former colleague at St John's, said Mrs Yates was "held in the highest esteem" as a teacher. Her commitment to the children, especially those who were challenged and challenging, was unsurpassed.

"Children loved and respected her. They knew deep down that she was on their side and that she would do what she could to help them be the best they could possibly be."

Mrs Costello said her mother's home was her "Garden of Eden", and described how, along with her father, Ray, who died in 2005, she had restored the property from a derelict barn. She said: "After dad's death there was never any question in her mind that she would stay at the cottage – it was where she felt closest to him.

Typical

"She kept up her other interests, the Discussion Club, the Civic Society and the Bewdley Festival and continued to swim every day.

"With typical determination to make the best of things, mum began to create a new life for herself."

A collection was held in aid of Kemp Hospice and the International Needs UK charity.

People unable to attend the service but who wish to make a donation can still visit visit justgiving.com/betty-yates

Stephen Farrow, aged 47, of no fixed address, has been accused of her murder and is due to make his next court appearance on June 29.

Help plea over raid at school

COMPUTERS and headphones worth £720 have been stolen from a Bewdley school.

Thieves broke into St Anne's Middle Schoo, Wyre Hill, during the Easter break and took two Dell laptops and four sets of Mono Educational headphones.

It is believed the raid happened sometime between 5pm on March 30 and 8am on April 16.

Pc Antony Powles said: "We would like to hear from anyone who remembers seeing any suspicious activity around the school over the Easter break, or if anyone has been offered a Dell laptop or headphones for sale."

Witnesses or anyone with information should contact him on 0300 333 3000, quoting incident 172-S-160412, or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

Auction record

AUCTIONEERS Halls had a record 2,000 lots and its best ever attendance at its agricultural machinery auction at Stone, near Kidderminster last month. A Ford 7610 tractor made the top price of £6,500 at the event at The Gallops, Stanklyn Lane.

Rambling night

FOLK band The Rambling Jacks will be playing at the Sack the Juggler gig on Saturday at Pound Green Village Hall, near Arley. Doors open at 7.30pm for an 8pm start.

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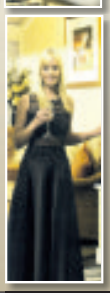

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Health chiefs launch foundation trust bid

BOSSES at the Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust are aiming to convert the organisation into a foundation trust by next summer.

They say the move would give the trust greater control of its affairs and funding, as it would not be directly controlled by the Government.

Bosses say they would have more freedom to decide how best to develop services and how they spend public money.

Residents would be allowed to apply to become members of the trust and governors, to hold it to account.

The community health services provided by the trust include dental health assistance, help for people with learning disabilities, adult speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and podiatry.

Members

People who sign up to become members would have a say in how the services are run and how they are provided.

There would also be the chance to stand for election to the council of governors which acts as a watchdog to ensure standards are met.

Chief executive Sarah Dugan said: "We're committed to achieving NHS Foundation Trust status as we believe it is the right thing for our organisation...and the community.

"We would like residents to sign up. It's free to join and members will be able to learn more about what we do, as well as have the opportunity to influence the way our services are provided."

Residents can sign up to by visiting www.hacw.nhs.uk. To find out more about the application process, call 01905 681425 or visit ftoffice@hacw.nhs.uk

MP on track to boost railway

MP Mark Garnier with his guests, peers and MPs with their families and friends, at the railway

MARK GARNIER, MP for Wyre Forest, invited a group of peers and MPs, with families and friends, to visit the Severn Valley Railway. Representatives of the Heritage Rail Association and Theresa Villiers, Minister of State for Railways, was also there.

Mr Garnier organised the visit as co-founder and treasurer of the Parliamentary Group for Heritage Rail, a group set up to brief parliamentarians about heritage railways, the contribution they make to their local economies and the skills and training opportunities involved.

He said: "It was an extremely enjoyable day and I am delighted that so many MPs and peers were able to come and see what a fantastic tourist spot SVR is. I felt it was important to engage with the heritage rail community."

He said he also wanted to highlight the good practice that the SVR could offer other heritage railways.

Arts and crafts to celebrate the jubilee

ART and craft workers have joined forces to put their talents on show for the Worcestershire Arts Trail event, which is planned to coincide with the celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Clare Maiden, a 65-year-old former primary school-teacher, from Valley Farm, Elmley Lovett, near Hartlebury, met two other local potters while on a ceramics course in Yorkshire.

They are Richard Mansfield, 60, from Sytchampton, and Barry Lockwood, a 66-year-old former teacher, from Barbourne, Worcester.

Raise

They are planning to open Clare's Elmley Arts Studios barn at Valley Farm to the public free-of-charge during the event, to be staged from June 1 to June 4.

The studios will be open between 10.30am and 4pm during the event.

They hope to raise awareness of local talent and the processes involved in various crafts.

Items of their work will also be on sale.

Visitors will also be able to take a picnic and enjoy the scenery around a nearby lake. Refreshments will also be on sale.

Brian Maiden, 70, from Stourport-on-Severn, is another craft worker taking space at the Elmley Arts Studios.

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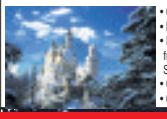
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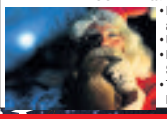
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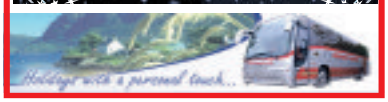

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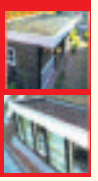

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Backing for homes plan on carpet factory site

A MAJOR redevelopment of a former Stourport carpet factory to create homes, shops and a hotel has moved a stage closer despite concerns about increased traffic jams.

By Andrew Turton

Concerns were raised that a single road feeding into the site in could become clogged along with narrow neighbouring streets.

But the proposals on the former Carpets of Worth factory site received the majority backing of councillors on Wyre Forest District Council planning committee last night.

More than 150 homes will be built on the land, in Severn Road, surrounded by the Rover Stour.

It is neighbouring a new Tesco supermarket which has been built on the northern part of the site.

Workers have already started a project to improve road junctions nearby as part of the plans.

Developers have agreed to spend £270,000 on transport improvements, with around £30,000 being spent on other infrastructure updates in the area. Committee member Councillor Howard Martin said: "I think it is a fabulous application for the piece of land and it will bring much needed homes to the area but I do worry about the impact on the traffic in Stourport."

The plans have been in the pipeline for three years and were held up in 2010 in a row over a pedestrian bridge across the Stour.

Outline planning permission was granted last year and it is hoped this is now the final hurdle before work can start.

A report by planning officer John Baggott said: "Concerns relating to the all-important delivery of the link road and bridge across the River Stour have been negated."

Students join stars

The international stars will be joined by local dancers

THE European Ballet company visits Ludlow on Saturday at 4pm and 8pm to present Sleeping Beauty. Under the direction of Stanislav Tchassov, former principal with the Bolshoi Ballet, the company will bring the beautiful ballet to life. Dancers from Russia and Europe will perform, helped by some local ballet students. Some dancers will meet the audience after the show. Book online at www.ludlowassemblyrooms.co.uk or call 01584 878141.

Exploring the bluebells

VISITORS to an outdoor centre near Stourport can enjoy a walk among the bluebells on May 6. Wardens at Bishops Wood Centre, Crossway Green,will be hosting a guided stroll from 2pm until 4.30pm and will give people an insight into the natural history and folklore of one of the nation's favourite plants. People can bring along a picnic There is a small fee. For more information call 01299 250513.

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Cash is up for grabs to aid rural communities

Join in the festival fun

One of the festival organisers helping to build the excitement

ORGANISERS of the Worcester Festival are asking for people or groups who want to organise an event at the show to get in touch.

The festival is on 17 to 27 August and people who want to take part have until May 1 to register by emailing chris@worcesterlive.co.uk

Starring at this year's festival is legendary singer Elkie Brooks. Also there will be family favourites such as Percy the Festival Peacock, Funky Faces Face Painters, a talent competition, and a free firework display.

For more information on the festival log on to the website www.worcesterfestival.co.uk

PEOPLE in the Wyre Forest can apply for a slice of a newly-boosted cash fund to support rural areas.

Community groups, parish councils and businesses with a community interest can apply for up to £25,000 funding from the Leader Programme, a European initiative delivered locally by Worcestershire County Council.

The programme has already been a success with a variety of projects, including those that support communities, young people, rural heritage and training.

The programme has received additional funding of £108,000 and there is now £152,400 to allocate. The programme has also been extended and projects can run up until September 2013.

Groups have until tomorrow (Friday) to apply. Steve Brain, Fundings and Programmes Manager for Worcestershire County Council said: "The programme has delivered real benefits to those who live in Worcestershire's rural communities and this is evidenced by the fact funding has been increased.

"We hope people will take advantage of this latest opportunity, which will improve access to services for those living in the rural areas."

Leader funding is open to rural communities in Wychavon, Wyre Forest and Malvern Hills districts. Full details and application instructions are available at www.worcestershire.gov.uk/leader

People can also contact Elspeth Fry on 01905 822013 or by sending an email to efry@worcestershire.gov.uk

Invitation to walk

SANDWELL Ramblers are inviting people to an easy seven-and-a-half mile walk at Wheaton Aston, on Sunday. Meet at 9am at the Labour Club in Sandwell Road, West Bromwich. Call 0121 588 5068 for details.

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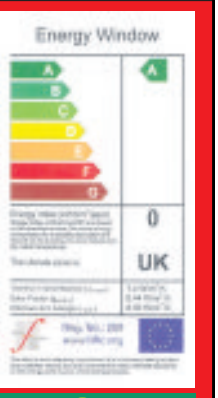

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thechronicle

School receives benches gift in Sheila's memory

Pupils on one of the new benches presented to Lickhill Primary School in memory of Sheila Adderley

TWO benches have been unveiled in memory of a much-loved teaching assistant who died following a short battle with cancer.

Mother-of-three Sheila Adderley, who was aged 56, worked at Lickhill Primary School, Stourport, for 10 years. She died last July.

Her husband, Ernie, who has previously helped to build a pond at the school, has donated two teak benches for pupils to use.

He also had memorial plaques engraved and fixed to the benches as a tribute to his wife of more 30 years.

Deputy headteacher Rhoda Pierpoint, said: "Sheila loved working with all our children and would fully appreciate being able to sit and watch the world going by. Sheila, whose three children all attended Lickhill, loved nothing more than seeing that light bulb switch on when a child finally got it.

"Her never-ending care and high aspirations for the children was infallible. That is just one of the many reasons she will be dearly missed."

Children and staff created a scrapbook of their memories of her time at the school. It contained pictures, poems, funny moments and even a CD of one of her favourite songs.

"The book was presented to Sheila the day before she passed away," the deputy head said and added she would "always have a place in the hearts of the staff and children that she touched over the years".

Sheila Adderley

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Morris Minors major attraction

CAR enthusiasts will be able to enjoy the nostalgic delights of Morris Minors when a rally takes place at a Worcestershire garden centre

Around 80 cars which were manufactured between 1948 and 1971 are expected at the event which is organised by the Birmingham branch of the Morris Minor Owners Club.

It will take place at Webbs Garden Centre, Wychbold, on Sunday.

Club secretary Claire Bates said: "Morris Minors are so special and I absolutely adore them. They were an affordable vehicle for anyone to own and indeed lots of people did.

"That is why, where-ever you go in a Morris Minor, whatever the model, someone or lots of people will always comment on it."

Visitors can go to see the cars and meet the owners from 10am until 4.30pm. For more information go to www.birmingham.mmoc.org.uk

All aboard! MP invites transport chief to heritage railway

Wyre Forest MP Mark Garnier with the Parliamentary party he invited to the Severn Valley Railway

WYRE Forest MP Mark Garnier invited the Transport Minister Theresa Villiers to visit the Severn Valley Railway.

He wanted to showcase the importance of the heritage line which runs from Kidderminster to Bridgnorth.

Mr Garnier organised the visit as co-founder and treasurer of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Heritage Rail.

He invited five peers, including Lord Faulkner of Worcester, who is vice president of the group, and four MPs to take a closer look at the steam trains and what the site has to offer tourists.

Representatives of the Heritage Rail Association also attended.

He said: "It was an extremely enjoyable day and I am delighted that so many MPs and Peers were able to come and see what a fantastic tourist spot the Severn Valley Railway is in Wyre Forest.

"I felt that it was important to have this day for two reasons; the first was to give MPs and Peers the opportunity engage with the heritage rail community.

Highlight

"If we are engaged then we will be more able to react quickly to issues that affect them, especially unintended consequences of otherwise sensible legislation.

"The second reason was so that I could highlight the excellent examples of good practice that the SVR can offer other heritage railways."

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Attacks on sheep lead to launch of rural watch

Sheep fears – Rural Watch organiser Ernest Lane with Councillor Ann Nation

FARMERS in villages around Kidderminster have set up a "rural watch" group after a spate of attacks in which sheep have been killed or left with their legs tied up.

By Louise Jew

Guns have fired at night and fences stolen in the crime wave hitting the countryside in an area bordered by the town, Stourbridge and Halesowen.

At least six sheep have been found dead, some savaged with bite wounds.

And on three other occasions lambs have been found left by gates with their legs bound ready for collection.

A gang of around five poachers with torches was spotted near sheep on one occasion but when challenged by a farmer in a jeep they ran off.

It is thought that sheep are being taken to feed terriers or "blood" them to give them a taste for illegal poaching.

Police have launched extra patrols in the area and farmers in Broome, Clent, Romsley, Blakedown and Chaddesley Corbett have set up "Rural Watch" in a bid to end the disturbing incidents, which started about a month ago.

"It's very distressing when you've bred sheep from birth to find them dead or tied up," Stuart Geggie, who farms in Romsley, near Halesowen, said.

He found three sheep dead and one ewe injured after a dog attack on land he rents in the Pedmore area of Stourbridge, several weeks ago.

And in a separate attack two of Mr Geggie's ewes were left with their feet tied together.

Police called a meeting, attended by eight farmers and landowners last week at Broome, when the Rural Watch was set up.

"Rural Watch" chairman Ernest Lane, said: "There have been random incidents going on for about a month but then a nurse going home in Broome notified police when she heard shots fired about 10.30 at night."

Pc Andy Wallace appealed for anyone seeing anything suspicious to contact police 101 or 999 in an emergency.

Walkers help to beef up Sir Ian's trek

Walkers prepare to join Sir Ian Botham for Beefy's Breat British Walk for Leukaemia over the Clent Hills

A determined Sir Ian

Leukaemia survivor Kris Griffin and his son Luca

HUNDREDS joined England cricket legend Sir Ian Botham as he strolled through the Clent Hill on his latest charity walk.

Fundraisers teamed up with Beefy for the final four miles of last Tuesday's leg at Clent Hills, near Stourbridge.

It marked the passing of the midway point for Botham as he tackles his 10-day Great British Walk. Botham has completed more than 9,000 miles since he started the walking events in 1985.

Much of the cash raised has gone towards the Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research charity. One of the people supporting him was leukaemia survivor Kris Griffin, from Kidderminster.

Generations of families waited patiently for Botham to arrive in Worcestershire after the sporting icon started his walk in Birmingham city centre. He arrived flanked by police outriders to cheers from the gathered crowd at St Kenelm's Pass at around 2pm.

They had been suitably warmed up by fitness instructors before following Beefy as he continued into the Clent Hills Country Park.

Saddle up for boost to hospice

CYCLISTS are being urged to saddle up for an annual fundraising event in aid of Acorns Children's Hospice.

The annual Severn Valley Cycle Challenge will take place on August 19 with the choice between a 10-mile and 20-mile route.

It helps to raise funds for the charity which provides support for youngsters with life threatening and limiting illnesses and their families.

People opting for the 20-mile route will start their journey from Bridgnorth and those taking the 10-mile option will start at Severn Valley Country Park.

Cyclists will pass beauty spots such as Arley Arboretum and pedal through the Wyre Forest before reaching the finishing line at Bewdley where Severn Valley Railway will provide trains back to the starting point.

Cyclists should call 0844 984 0405 or log on to www.acorns.org.uk/cycle

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Wolves were the Provincial League winners in 1963

Ole Olsen and World Championship Trophy

Howard Cole riding for Wolves in 60s

Sam Ermolenko leading a race at Monmore Green

Freddie Lindgren with young Wolves fan Lewis Squires

Revived speedway team was on track for success

A NEW speedway season is underway at Monmore Green, where Wolverhampton Wolves are striving to achieve the success of a couple of years ago when they were Elite League Champions.

MEMORY LANE

by Alec Brew

Speedway came to Wolverhampton as long ago as 1928, but only lasted until 1930, though grass track racing was always popular. The sport was revived in 1951 with the formation of the Wolverhampton Wasps, but it folded again in 1954.

A new team, the Wolves, were formed in 1961, riding at Monmore Green in the Midland League Championship, winning it in 1962, and becoming Provincial League Champions in 1963.

Apart from a couple of years the Wolves have consistently competed in the top flight of British Speedway ever since, becoming British League Champions in 1991, and Premier League winners in 1996.

They have won the current Elite League in 2002 and 2009, making them a rather more successful set of Wolves than the other team across the city at Molineux.

Honour

Two world speedway champions have ridden for the team. The great Dane, Ole Olsen, rode for the team from 1971 to 1975 and twice became world champion in that time, his fame transcending the sport. His name was often chanted at the football ground around that time. He went on to become world champion a third time after he had left Wolves, one of the greatest riders of all time.

The Californian, Sam Ermolenko, rode for Wolves for many years and became World Champion in 1993 an honour which eluded his fellow countryman, 'Rocket' Ronnie Correy, who also rode for Wolves in the 90s.

In more recent times the stars of the team have been two Swedes, the long serving, Peter Karlsson, who captained the team to the 2009 Championship, and the electric Freddie Lindgren who was top points scorer that year, and consistently ever since.

Coming to the fore recently has been the young rider from Scunthorpe, Tai Woffinden.

This season has not started as well as might have been expected but fans hope the team can still achieve the success of earlier years.

Hasse Holmqvist, a Wolves rider from the 70s

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LETTERS

Sea could solve water shortage

SO, we've pierced the ozone layer, temperatures are supposedly one or two degrees higher, the ice caps are melting, sea levels are rising and we are in danger that parts of our low lying coastline may be reclaimed by the sea.

At the same time we have a declared drought which could continue till Christmas and it's only April!

So why don't we kill two birds with one stone and pump some sea water to our inland reservoirs. Instead of spending billions of pounds on an HS2 rail line we could better use the money on pipelines instead.

We would need some large scale reverse osmosis plants to produce desalinated water but they could be built almost anywhere en route, say areas of high unemployment, and the pumps run on low cost electricity from either solar energy or wind turbines.

If we have lots of rain they could be turned off and if we have long dry sunny periods they could be turned on.

The pipelines could largely be buried underground and easily routed around houses, farms, businesses and industry etc. so as not to cause any inconvenience or be a blight on the landscape.

They could even be run in existing trenches alongside other services such as gas, electricity and sewerage to keep the initial costs to a minimum.

Unlike a 100 mph train, a sudden curve or a 90 degree bend is not a problem to flowing water. Not all desalinated water needs to be of domestic quality. Some could be for industrial or agricultural applications. This would reduce the amount of drinking quality water used in industrial cooling and land irrigation.

The simple question is, which is most important, our quality of life or our speed of life?

John Chandler,
Hay Green, Stourbridge.

Bless the UK for its wonderful health care

I FEEL an obligation to write to the press for the first time in my life with, I hope, an uplifting story.

I had to undergo, at nearly 70, emergency surgery for a perforated gall bladder. Thanks to a wonderful surgeon and her team at Worcester Royal Hospital, I am well on the mend.

I want to emphasise my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the unsung dedication of the nurses of the Surgical High Dependency Unit, angels one and all.

To the nurses of Beech 3 ward, again a big thank you.

To the other patients, get well quick as I am doing, and bless the UK for its NHS.

Please, politicians, don't ever destroy the concept of what should be, has been, and can be the best model of healthcare in the world.

David R Stephens,
Stourport.

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

Kidderminster Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

E-MAIL

kidderminsterchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Helpless against the threat from badgers

BADGERS have a very privileged position. They can smash through fences, scavenge what they like and dig up lawns.

This is trespass, theft and criminal damage for which you or I would receive severe punishments.

I lost most of my soft fruits, root vegetables and grass to them last year, and can only guess at the damage they will cause this year.

Our attitude towards them seems to stem from our view of wildlife. Wild birds and bees are loved. We feed them. Hedgehogs and frogs are helpful. We protect ourselves against rats, mice, squirrels, slugs and dogs. But badgers are protected against us.

They abuse their position, cause us great expense, and are very savage if approached. Legally, we can do little to protect ourselves against them.

Are we just waiting to read in a newspaper that a child or unsuspecting adult has been savaged by a badger? I am told their attack is more vicious than a rottweiler's.

Geoff Boyle,
Blakebrook, Kidderminster.

Appeal is made for help with family tree

I AM researching my family tree on my mother's side (Bell) and would like to contact anyone who knew Elsie Bell nee Jones (1916-1976) whose last known location was Kidderminster.

Her husband Edward Bell (1907-1944) died of TB, leaving Elsie with my mother, and a brother and sister, John and Barbara, to look after.

They were fostered and lost touch with their mother. John died in 1999.

Barbara had two children, Alex and Michelle.

My grandmother Elsie may have had more children. One may have been called Sheila Bell, born about 1951.

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The chance to go batty

A POPULAR annual bat walk will be held through the grounds of Hartlebury Castle, near Kidderminster.

Visitors will be able to find out more about the creatures on May 18 at 7.30pm.

The event will be hosted by the Worcestershire Bat Group, which will give a presentation first.

Visitors will be able to use various types of detection equipment. Tickets must be pre-booked and cost £16 for adults and £8 for children, including a pre-walk meal.

Visitor experience manager Rachel Robinson said: "It will be a really exciting chance for families to experience the museum site after dark."

Don't get lost in translation

A KIDDERMINSTER translation agency is warning businesses a of the dangers of using linguists outside of their mother tongue when translating important documents into other languages.

Midland Technical Translations offers expert translation services to the automotive, medical and legal industries using professional mother tongue translators.

Managing director Sue Clark said it was easy for a message to get lost in translation.

"We recently had a very lengthy and important academic document that needed proofreading as it was written in a language which was not the author's mother tongue, so we offered two strategies: a mother tongue translator and a non-mother tongue translator who was professionally proficient in the language used.

"The mother tongue translator picked up at least one error per line, whereas the non-mother tongue translator actually missed a number of the stylistic and vocabulary errors, and only saw the glaring grammatical errors at a rate of about one per page.

Huge

"Failing to spot these mistakes would have had huge implications for the credibility of the academic document concerned."

Withmore regional businesses tapping into overseas markets, Mrs Clark warned that the increasing use of online-based translators was another potential disaster waiting to happen.

"Many firms are tempted to use these website translators, where words are simply copied and pasted, as a cheap and cheerful way of converting text into something for a potential overseas buyer to view, but this could in fact open up a safety, legal, or commercial minefield, not to mention the reputational damage it could cause."

She said a misunderstanding or misinterpretation can caused-major ramifications.

"It's much better in the long-term to invest in having a few pages translated professionally to ensure your message says exactly what you want it to," she added.

Sue Clark – warning of misunderstandings

Compost offer to a better environment

RESIDENTS in Wyre Forest are being encouraged to buy a compost bin from Worcestershire County Council.

As part of The National Home Composting campaign, the authority is offering a 220-litre bin for £8, plus £5 delivery.

Other offers include buying two bins and getting the second half price.The council said composting will reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill.

Councillor Anthony Blagg, Cabinet member for environment and waste said: "These offers, which were due to end in March, have been extended, therefore local people are encouraged to buy their very own compost bin as soon as possible and take advantage for the summer ahead.

"More and more people are turning to growing their own produce and composting is a natural process that transforms your kitchen and garden waste into a free valuable and nutrient rich food for your garden.

"Composting is easy to do and helps reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill.

"We want residents to be self-sufficient and get the most out of their waste"

He said some organic waste that is sent to landfill is unable to decompose and instead gives off methane which contributes to climate change.

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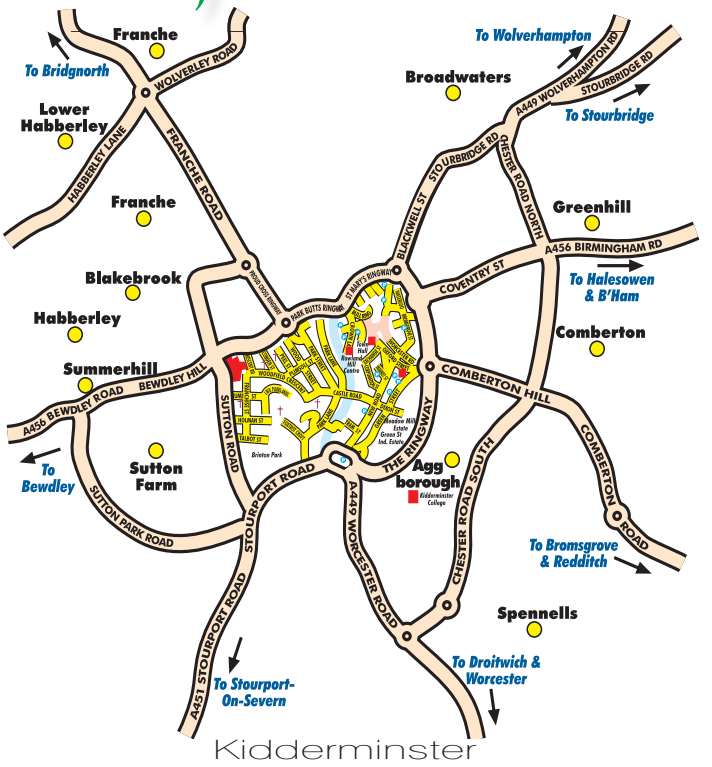

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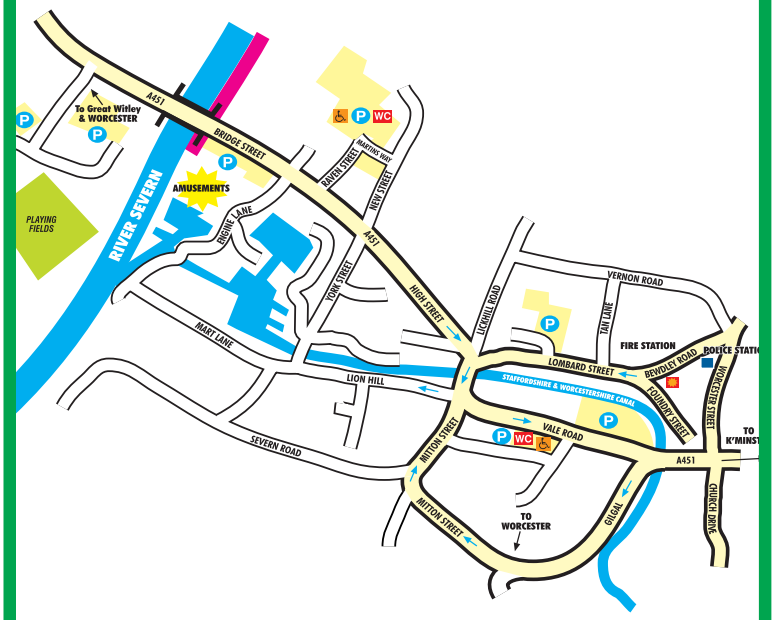

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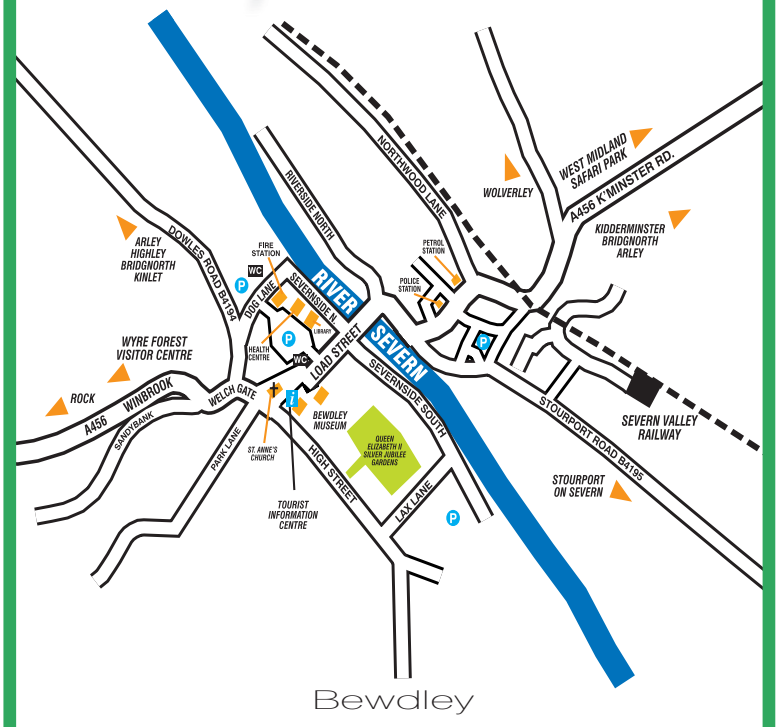

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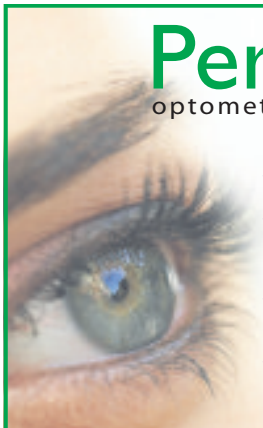

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A CURIOUSLY anonymous combo, the BBC have in three albums established themselves as one of the most original and inventive bands on the UK scene.

They still have not quite got the clout to fill the Civic but the enthusiasm of their young fans was boisterous and infectious.

The night began with Warwickshire singer-songwriter Lucy Rose. She has the awkward of the young Marianne Faithfull, a clutch of good songs and it became apparent she is an unofficial extra member of BBC. Next on Lianne La Havas was more polished with a jazz-inflected soulful voice. The new Corrine Bailey Rae?

Muscle

Opening with How Can You Swallow So Much Sleep from latest album A Different Kind Of Fix, it was soon obvious BBC pack more rock muscle than suggested by singer-guitarist Jack Steadman's floppy fringe.

There's is a unclassifiable blend of psychedelic rock (Your Eyes), folkiness (Ivy & Gold) and indie rock (Evening Morning).

Lucy Rose returned to share vocals with Steadman on the cosy Lights Out Words Gone and the ethereal Still. BBC, the hip alternative to Coldplay, rounded off by encoring with the quirky Shuffle.

Lucy Rose headlines in her own right at Wolverhampton Slade Rooms on May 24.

Leon Burakowski

Barry wrote the songs and now it could be magic again

EIGHTY million units sold and more than 40 hits, Barry Manilow has set the benchmark for success in popular music since his breakthrough in the 1970s with Mandy, Could It Be Magic – as covered by Take That – and I Write The Songs.

After a series of albums covering classics songs from several genres, Manilow last year brought out his first album of original songs in ten years, 15 Minutes, an exploration of the perils of fame.

Manilow is perhaps at his very best in concert where he is a consummate showman, drawing on an extensive back catalogue and delivering his songs with his own brand of self-deprecating humour.

His legion of Fanilows will be out in force when he returns to the stage in the UK, including a Birmingham LG Arena date on May 17. Tickets range from £25 to £85. Call 0844 338 8000.

Barry Manilow's fanilows will be at the LG next month

Dan's debut due in May

WOLVERHAMPTON singer-songwriter Dan Whitehouse is busy with his debut album, a career on the folk circuit and using his talent for music as a therapy for people with memory loss through brain injury.

He will be back on home turf on May 4 when he supports Scott Matthews at the Newhampton Arts Centre, Whitmore Reans, and his tour takes him across the Midlands where he will play Birmingham's Songwriters Cafe on May 17; The Spark, Lichfield on June 7; The BHG Kidderminster on July 10; Life and Other Arts Festival, Stourbridge, on July 15 and Moseley Folk Festival on September 2. Dan's self-titled debut album comes out on May 23. See www.dan-whitehouse.com

Irish jokers at Civic

RAUCOUS Irish comedy show Good Mourning Mrs Brown has sold out five consecutive performances at Wolverhampton Civic Hall this week. Then Irish comic Dara O'Briain has three nights at the Civic from May 18-20 with his Craic Dealer show. Call 0870 320 7000.

Drum 'n' bass 'n' ballet in Brum

ONE of the highlights of the International Dance Festival Birmingham will be Three Short Works by Birmingham Royal Ballet at the Crescent Theatre on May 3 and 4.

These will include 9-5, a new one-act ballet developed by BRB dancer Kit Holder from his exciting drum 'n' bass work Printer Jam. Also featured will be Lyric Pieces by American choreographer Jessica Lang and Take Five, David Bintley's jazz creation to music by Dave Brubeck.

Tickets costs from £10 to £18 and there will be an extra matinee peformance on May 4. Call 0121 643 5858.

Not top of the world

Rainy Days and Mondays: The Carpenters Story, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

RAINY it was although not a Monday as we waited for the Carpenters story to unfold at the New Alexandra Theatre. The venue was not packed although the audience were very receptive – some too much so – and the group made it Yesterday Once More as they ran through the familiar songs.

To call the show Rainy Days and Mondays The Carpenters Story was really overstating it – the songs were there, yes, and illustrated the musical skills of brother Richard but the story was minimal. We were shown a few pictures of Richard and sister Karen and some of the album covers and a small reference was made to her tragic death at a young age. Apart from that, it was just songs and some stumbling around as the band had to be counted in on a couple of occasions. It was stated that it was 'not a dramatisation', so why was it plugged as The Carpenters Story?

Emotion

Singer Claire Furley bore a slight resemblance to Karen and sounded a bit like her but she did not have the vocal depth or emotion to carry it off. The band appeared disinterested, although one did show versatility in the of instruments he could play and was good on the saxophone.

Some of the songs were too upbeat, putting the timing out, and Claire's voice was sometimes drowned out. However, the show did provide more than two hours of classic hits including (They Long to Be) Close to You, Superstar, Goodbye to Love, Sing, We've Only Just Begun, Top of the World, Yesterday Once More, Solitaire, For All We Know, Only Yesterday, and Please Mr Postman. Well received, by some, but maybe that distinctive voice of Karen Carpenter is just too tough an act to follow.

Sue Attwater

Just an illusion

ILLUSIONIST Derren Brown bring his latest mind-boggling show, Svengali, to Wolverhampton Grand for six evening performances from Monday. Call 01902 429212.

Des delight as he marks six decades in showbiz

Des O'Connor, Wolverhampton Grand

SIX decades in show business and still going strong, legendary entertainer Des O'Connor was greeted with a huge appreciative applause from a near full Grand Theatre.

Looking considerably younger than his 80 years the singer, game show host and comedian oozed charm in his interaction with the audience.

His easy going personality, versatile comedy and musical prowess gave him the ability to entertain and delight the audience entirely on his own.

Laughter

The first half of the show was devoted to comedy that produced howls of laughter with tales about the many tours and shows that he has done over the years with famous artists and the jokes made about his singing – particularly by Morecambe and Wise.

For the second half, together with first class musicians, he mixed the comedy with powerful renditions of well established songs. Sweet Caroline, Crazy, The Young Ones and a Buddy Holly medley had the satisfied audience singing along with him.

He certainly deserves his title of Mr Showbiz.

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Saturday TV

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Choice

THE VOICE UK
BBC1, 7pm

The blind auditions are over, and the unique selling point (the fact the judges couldn't see who they'd chosen to mentor) has been exhausted, will it be just like The X Factor from here on? That remains to be seen, but with a recent episode thrashing Britain's Got Talent in the ratings, you can bet Simon Cowell is a little worried as his quest for ratings supremacy is threatened once more. This week, the four celebrity mentors start the opening live round with a group performance to show the wannabe stars how it's done. Then, the five remaining acts in Tom and Will's teams take centre stage. The results show is tomorrow at 7.25pm.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **11.45** Football Focus. **12.15** Match of the Day Live. A match from the Championship (Kick-off 12.30pm). **2.30** Live Challenge Cup Rugby League. Warrington Wolves v Bradford Bulls (Kick-off 2.40pm). **4.30** Final Score. **5.20** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **5.35** Pointless Celebrities.

6.30 My Family. Ben forms a union to protest about timecards at work. (R)
7.00 The Voice UK. Holly Willoughby and Reggie Yates present the first live round of the singing contest, in which the five acts in Tom Jones and Will.i.am's teams each take centre stage.
8.30 The National Lottery: In It to Win It. Dale Winton hosts the quiz show in which five contestants answer questions to scoop a big prize. Includes the Lotto and Thunderball draws.
9.20 Casualty. Weeks of fretful anticipation come to an end for Sam as the day of the GMC hearing arrives, but a confrontation with an old friend forces her to relive painful memories.
10.10 BBC News; Weather.
10.30 Match of the Day. Including highlights of Wigan Athletic v Newcastle United; National Lottery Update.
11.55 The Football League Show. Highlights of today's games on the final day of the regular Championship season.

1.15 Weatherview. **1.20** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **12.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **1.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. Further second-round coverage from Sheffield. **5.30** The Falklands – Remembering Craig.

6.00 Flog It! The team visits the Cumbrian town of Barrow-in-Furness.
6.30 Dad's Army. The platoon puts its best feet forward. (R)
7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. Coverage of the final session on day eight at Sheffield's Crucible Theatre, where one second-round match is scheduled to conclude and another gets under way.
8.00 The Story of Light Entertainment. The role of impressionists, exploring the popularity of performers including Mike Yarwood, Rory Bremner, Alistair McGowan, Ronni Ancona and the Spitting Image team.
9.00 The Art of Tommy Cooper. The life and work of the comedian. (R)
9.30 I Love 1972. David Cassidy continues the nostalgic look back at 1970s kitsch culture, focusing on the year of The Partridge Family, The Godfather and Marc Bolan's commercial peak. (R)
10.30 FILM: Mean Streets. (1973) Martin Scorsese's drama, with Robert De Niro.

12.20 Snooker: The World Championship. **1.10** Snooker Extra. **3.10** Close.

ITV1

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25** CITV. **8.25** Saturday Cookbook. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **11.20** The Real Housewives of New York City. **12.15** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **1.20** ITV News; Weather. **1.30** Film: Free Willy 3: The Rescue. (1997) Family adventure, starring Jason James Richter. **3.05** Planet's Funniest Animals. (R) **3.20** Film: Murder on the Orient Express. (1974) Agatha Christie mystery, starring Albert Finney. **5.45** Regional News ; Weather.

6.00 ITV News; Weather.
6.15 Keith Lemon's LemonAid.
7.00 New You've Been Framed! Featuring boating mishaps.
7.30 The Cube. Builder Wes and PE teacher Catrin are asked to complete tasks within the confines of the cube, hoping to win a jackpot of £250,000.
8.30 Britain's Got Talent. Ant and Dec host the nationwide talent search as another line-up of entertainers try to impress judges Simon Cowell, David Walliams, Alesha Dixon and Amanda Holden.
9.30 Benidorm. The Garveys arrive at Madge's villa, only to discover she has sold it to a TV personality, and Gavin turns up at Solana with a new companion. (R)
10.30 ITV News; Weather.
10.45 FILM: Dirty Harry. (1971) Police thriller, starring Clint Eastwood.

12.40 The Store. (R) ITV News Headlines. **2.45** In Plain Sight. (R) **3.30** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

6.15 The Hoobs. (R) **6.40** The Grid. **7.05** British F3. **7.30** FIM Superbike World Championship 2012. **7.55** The Morning Line. **8.50** The TV Book Club. **9.25** T4: Koko Pop. **10.00** T4: Made in Chelsea. **11.05** T4: The Pop Powerlist. **12.10** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.45** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.15** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **1.50** Channel 4 Racing. **3.55** Channel 4 Presents – Oscar Pistorius "Head Strong". (R) **4.00** Deal or No Deal. **5.00** Come Dine with Me.

6.00 Channel 4 News.
6.25 4thought.tv. Nurse Jane Parkes talks about dealing with depression through religion, and expresses her wish to share her beliefs with patients suffering the same plight.
6.30 Stephen Fry's 100 Greatest Gadgets. The writer and actor provides a countdown of his favourite devices, all of which have revolutionised aspects of life, including the tin opener, trouser press and answering machine. (R)
9.30 FILM: Terminator Salvation. (2009) Premiere. In the future, resistance fighter John Connor leads a war against the deadly robots. Sci-fi thriller sequel, starring Christian Bale.
11.45 FILM: Underworld: Evolution. (2006) Action fantasy sequel, starring Kate Beckinsale.

1.35 Stand Up for the Week. (R) **2.20** Facejacker. (R) **2.45** Hit the Road Jack. **3.30** Dog's Mercury. (R) **3.55** St Elsewhere. (R) **4.40** Smallville. (R) **5.25** Countdown.

Channel 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** The Gadget Show: World Tour. (R) **11.00** Rory McGrath's Pub Dig. (R) **12.00** The Restaurant Inspector. (R) **1.00** Film: Murder, She Said. (1961) Miss Marple mystery, starring Margaret Rutherford. **2.40** Film: Medicine Man. (1992) Jungle adventure, starring Sean Connery. **4.45** Film: The Magnificent Seven. (1960) Western, starring Yul Brynner.

7.25 5 News Weekend.
7.30 NCIS. Lt Col Mann arrives to assist with inquiries into the murder of a marine – a case that becomes personal for Gibbs when he learns one of the witnesses is his ex-wife. (R)
8.20 NCIS. A Navy recruiting officer is murdered at a high school and the agents receive help from Ducky's predecessor in their search for the killer. Guest starring Bob Newhart. (R)
9.10 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. The team is called to examine the murder of a man found in the desert, leading to a string of killings connected to a cache of stolen casino chips.
10.10 CSI: NY. A crime-scene lab technician is murdered.
11.05 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. A teenager's body is found in the Hudson River.

12.05 SuperCasino. **4.00** Great Artists. (R) **4.50** County Secrets. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Hana's Helpline. (R)

Digital

ITV2
3.50 All Star Family Fortunes **4.50** You've Been Framed and Famous! **5.50** Film: Back to the Future Part II (1989) **8.00** The Planet's Funniest Animals **8.30** Sextuplets – The Little Lambs **9.30** Britain's Got More Talent **10.30** Celebrity Juice **11.15** Keith Lemon's LemonAid

ITV3
3.55 Film: The Secret Garden (1993) **5.55** Agatha Christie's Marple **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Foyle's War **11.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot

ITV4
11.00 Live Indian Premier League Cricket. Chennai Super Kings v Kings XI Punjab and Kolkata Knight Riders v Royal Challengers Bangalore. **8.00** River Monsters **9.00** Film: Unforgiven (1992) Western, directed by and starring Clint Eastwood. **11.40** Film: Midnight Run (1988)

BBC THREE
7.00 Doctor Who **7.45** Doctor Who Confidential **8.00** Top Gear **9.00** World's Craziest Fools **9.30** Russell Howard's Good News Extra **10.15** Film: Adulthood (2008) **11.50** Family Guy

BBC FOUR
7.00 South Pacific **8.00** Around the World in 60 Minutes **9.00** The Bridge **11.00** Parkinson: The Richard Burton Interview **11.35** Top of the Pops: 1977

E4
3.00 Made in Chelsea **4.05** Charlie's Angels **5.00** How I Met Your Mother **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.30** Rules of Engagement **8.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.30** Happy Endings **9.00** Rude Tube: Animals and Kids **9.30** Film: Wayne's World (1992) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory

FILM4
3.05 The Thirty-Nine Steps (1959) **4.55** Picture Perfect (1997) **6.50** Only You (1994) Romantic comedy, with Marisa Tomei and Robert Downey Jr. **9.00** The Sixth Sense (1999) **11.05** Cloverfield (2008)

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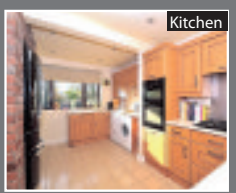
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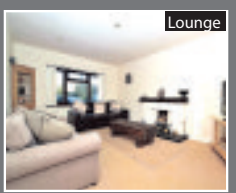
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Auction Guide Price £175,000

Castle Road, Cookley DY10 3TF
Three bedroom semi-detached house. Porch. Hall. Living Room/Dining Room. Kitchen. Side extension with w.c./ fuel store. Extended Kitchen. Garage. Large plot. Potential for extensions. Requires up-dating.

Auction Guide Price £125,000-£135,000

133 Stourport Road, Kidderminster DY11 7BW
An extended traditional inter-war three bedroom semi-detached house having a deep driveway and large rear gardens being approximately 98ft in depth and enjoying a good degree of privacy. The property is already extended to the ground floor and there is also good scope for further enlargement (subject to Planning Permission). Vacant Possession Upon Completion.

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Choice

ANTIQUES ROADSHOW

BBC1, 8pm

It's a well-known fact that Britain loves a good antique. You only have to take into consideration the longevity and popularity of this show, itself something of a much-treasured oldie, to see that it's true. This week, Fiona and the team head to the famed town of Stratford-upon-Avon, where with William Shakespeare's home so close by, they make a particular search for objects from the days of Elizabethan England. Up for examination are a dining table, a jewel said to have magical powers, and a portrait of Robert Dudley, First Earl of Leicester, and an important patron of theatre in the court of Elizabeth I.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.35** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Country Tracks; (R) Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.00** Sunday Politics. **1.00** Cash in the Attic. (R) **1.30** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.15** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **3.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.00** Human Planet. (R) **5.00** Points of View. **5.15** Songs of Praise.

6.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
6.25 Countryfile. Matt Baker spruces up beach huts in Southwold, Suffolk.
7.25 The Voice UK Results. Tom Jones and Will.i.am each lose one act.
8.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the team head to Charlecote park, near Stratford-upon-Avon, the hometown of William Shakespeare, where they appraise objects from the days of Elizabethan England.
9.00 Silent Witness. Part one of two. Leo investigates the mysterious death of a psychiatric patient.
10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
10.25 Have I Got a Bit More News for You. Damian Lewis guest-hosts the current affairs quiz.
11.10 Room 101 — Extra Storage. With Gregg Wallace, Gabby Logan and Sarah Millican.
11.50 FILM: The Man Without a Face. (1993) Drama, starring Mel Gibson.

1.40 Weatherview. **1.45** Sign Zone: Empire. (R) **2.45** Holby City. (R) **3.45** Antiques Road Trip. (R) **4.30** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo. (R) **12.00** Great British Menu. (R) **12.30** Live MotoGP. The Spanish Grand Prix race. **2.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. Further coverage of the second round in Sheffield.

6.00 The Hairy Bikers' Bakeation. Si King and Dave Myers travel through France, where they make tarte aux pralines, a savoury-stuffed brioche, apricot tarte Tatin and, of course, the traditional French baguette. (R)
7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. Hazel Irvine and Rishi Persad present coverage of the final session on day nine at Sheffield's Crucible Theatre.
8.00 Indian Ocean with Simon Reeve. Spear fishing on Madagascar and the world's smallest national park.
9.00 Ewan McGregor: Cold Chain Mission. Part two of two. The actor travels the Congo river.
10.00 Match of the Day 2. Including highlights of Chelsea v Queens Park Rangers.
11.05 Grandma's House. Simon spots a chance to move out of his grandmother's house. (R)
11.35 Snooker: The World Championship. The final session on day nine at Sheffield's Crucible Theatre.

12.25 Snooker Extra. **2.25** BBC News. **4.30** Close.

ITV1

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25** CITV. **8.25** Dinner Date. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Ade in Britain. (R) **10.25** May the Best House Win. (R) **11.30** Long Lost Family. (R) **12.30** ITV News; Weather. **12.35** Britain's Got Talent. (R) **1.35** The Planet's Funniest Animals. (R) **2.05** The Planet's Funniest Animals. (R) **2.35** Film: Columbo: Murder with Too Many Notes. (2000) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk and Billy Connolly. **4.25** Film: Tea with Mussolini. (1999) Period comedy drama, starring Maggie Smith.

6.35 Regional News; Weather.
6.45 ITV News; Weather.
7.00 All Star Family Fortunes. Tottenham Hotspur strike r Jermain Defoe and his family compete against actress Martine McCutcheon and her relatives to win up to £30,000 for charity.
8.00 Vera. The detective investigates the murder of a popular social worker and an infamous past case involving the death of a child appears to hold the key to solving the mystery.
10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather.
10.15 Perspectives: Wind in the Willows with Griff Rhys Jones. The actor and comedian explores the classic children's tale, delving into the history of the book and the life of its author Kenneth Grahame.
11.15 The Cube. A hurling instructor competes. (R)

12.10 The Store. (R) ITV News Headlines. **2.15** River Monsters. (R) **3.05** Motorsport UK. **3.55** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

6.10 Sali Mali. (R) **6.15** The Hoobs. (R) **6.40** The Hoobs. (R) **7.10** Wheelchair Rugby Highlights: London Prepares. **8.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Frasier. (R) **10.00** Sunday Brunch. **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. **12.25** The Big Bang Theory. **12.55** The Big Bang Theory. **1.20** The Simpsons. (R) **1.45** The Simpsons. (R) **2.20** Film: Meet Dave. (2008) Premiere. Sci-fi comedy, starring Eddie Murphy. **4.00** Time Team. **5.00** Film: The Parent Trap. (1998) Comedy remake, starring Lindsay Lohan.

7.25 Channel 4 News.
7.55 4thought.tv. Imam Abdullah Hasan discusses how Islam can help people overcome depression.
8.00 Celebrity Deal or No Deal. Sarah Millican takes part in the game show, trying to guess the value of the mystery boxes and win up to £250,000 for her chosen charity. Hosted by Noel Edmonds.
9.00 Homeland. Saul visits Carrie in hospital after the explosion and finds her postulating frantically about Abu Nazir, but realises her theories have merit. Brody takes his family to Gettysburg.
10.05 FILM: The Bank Job. (2008) Fact-based crime thriller, starring Jason Statham and and Saffron Burrows.

12.20 Film: My Name Is Khan. (2010) Premiere. Drama, starring Shahrukh Khan. **2.30** Brain Damage. (R) **2.40** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.45** Smallville. (R) **5.25** Countdown. (R)

Channel 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** City of Friends. (R) **6.35** Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (R) **6.50** Castle Farm. (R) **6.55** Abby's Flying Fairy School. **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Family! (R) **7.35** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **7.45** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.35** Rupert Bear. (R) **8.45** Mio Mao. (R) **8.50** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.05** The Mr Men Show. (R) **9.20** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.35** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **10.00** Animal Rescue Squad. (R) **10.20** Grey's Anatomy. (R) **11.15** Robson's Extreme Fishing Challenge. (R) **12.15** Cowboy Traders. (R) **1.15** William and Kate: One Year On. (R) **2.20** Film: William & Kate. (2011) **4.05** Film: Scooby-Doo. (2002) **5.45** Film: Mulan. (1998) Disney animated adventure, with the voices of Ming-Na and Eddie Murphy.

7.30 5 News Weekend.
7.35 Ultimate Police Interceptors. (R)
8.00 Once Upon a Time.
9.00 FILM: A Perfect Getaway. (2009) Premiere. Thriller, starring Milla Jovovich.
10.45 FILM: An American Haunting. (2005) Fact-based period horror, starring Donald Sutherland.

12.30 The World of Stupid Criminals. (R) **1.05** SuperCasino. **4.00** UEFA Europa League Highlights. **4.50** County Secrets. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Hana's Helpline. (R)

Digital

ITV2
3.20 The Only Way Is Essex **4.50** Britain's Got Talent **5.50** Britain's Got More Talent **6.50** Film: The Incredible Hulk (2008) **9.00** Benidorm **10.00** The Only Way Is Essex **10.45** Olly: Life on Murs **11.45** Film: GoldenEye (1995)

ITV3
3.45 Film: Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (1971) **5.45** Agatha Christie's Poirot **8.00** An Audience with Lionel Richie **9.00** Film: Caddyshack (1980) **11.00** Cracker

ITV4
11.00 British Touring Car Championship. Round three from Thruxton. **6.00** The Sweeney **7.00** Minder **8.00** River Monsters **9.00** Indian Premier League Cricket **10.00** Film: Get Carter (1971)

BBC THREE
7.00 Don't Blame the Dog **8.00** Top Gear **9.00** Don't Tell the Bride USA **9.50** Don't Tell the Bride: Greatest Moments **10.00** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad!

BBC FOUR
7.00 Royal Institution Lectures **8.00** Shock and Awe: The Story of Electricity **9.00** Film: Tim (1979) **10.45** Mark Lawson Talks to Zoe Wanamaker **11.45** Royal Institution Lectures

E4
3.05 Ugly Betty **4.05** Glee **5.05** 90210 **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** Film: Clueless (1995) **9.00** Desperate Housewives **11.00** Made in Chelsea

FILM4
2.55 The Poseidon Adventure (1972) **5.15** Freaky Friday (1976) **7.10** My Super Ex-Girlfriend (2006). An insecure superhero is outraged when her boyfriend dumps her, and in revenge uses her powers to ruin his life. Fantasy comedy, starring Uma Thurman, Luke Wilson and Eddie Izzard. **9.00** Iron Man (2008). Superhero adventure, starring Robert Downey Jr, Jeff Bridges, Gwyneth Paltrow and Terrence Howard. **11.25** Young Frankenstein (1974)

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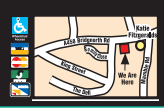

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FILM TIMES 27TH APRIL TO 3TH MAY 2012

LOCKOUT (15)
FRIDAY &MONDAY - THURSDAY 20.45
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 11.20 21.00
BATTLESHIP (12A)
FRIDAY & MONDAY - TUESDAY 17.00 20.00
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 14.00 17.00 20.00
PIRATES & SCIENTISTS (U)
SATURDAY - SUNDAY 16.30
GONE (15)
FRIDAY & MONDAY - THURSDAY 20.50
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 20.30
TITANIC 3D (12A)
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 13.40 17.20
FRIDAY & MONDAY- THURSDAY 17.10
CABIN IN THE WOODS (15)
FRIDAY & MONDAY- THURSDAY 18.50
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 18.30
STRIPERS VS WEREWOLVES (15)
FRIDAY & MONDAY - THURSDAY 16.45
AVENGERS 3D (12A)
FRIDAY & MONDAY - THURSDAY 17.00 20.10
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 11.00 14.05 17.10 20.15
MIRROR MIRROR (PG)
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 14.15
AMERICAN REUNION (15)
PREVIEW WED AND THURSDAY 17.40 20.20
KIDS CLUB (£1.10 PER TICKET)
MONSTER IN PARIS (U)
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 12.00
MUPPETS (U)
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 11.40

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Monday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Heir Hunters. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Robbed, Raided, Reunited. 11.30 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 6.55 Party Election Broadcast. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Bang Goes the Theory; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 Madeleine: The Last Hope? – Panorama. 9.00 Silent Witness. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Match of the Day. 11.05 Late Kick Off. 11.35 The Graham Norton Show. (R) 12.25 Weatherview. 12.30 Sign Zone: Our Food. (R) 1.30 Toughest Place to Be a Fisherman. (R) 2.30 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 3.15 Great British Railway Journeys. (R) 3.45 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. The opening session on day 10 in Sheffield. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Menu. 7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. The conclusion of the second round in Sheffield. 8.00 Chaplains: Angels of Mersey. 8.30 Home Cooking Made Easy. (R) 9.00 The 70s. 10.00 Sounds of the 70s 2 Troubadours – Peaceful Easy Feeling. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Snooker: The World Championship. 12.10 Snooker Extra. 2.10 BBC News. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Rosemary & Thyme. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.25 Party Election Broadcast. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 The Dales. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Scott & Bailey. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 The Mighty Mississippi with Trevor McDonald. (R) 11.35 Babies Behind Bars. (R) 12.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.30 Champions League Weekly. 2.55 ITV Nightscreen. 4.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.10 Sali Mali. (R) 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.35 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Secret Millionaire Australia. (R) 10.00 Location, Location, Location. (R) 11.00 How to Haggle for a House. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 River Cottage Veg Heroes. 12.35 Glamour Puds. (R) 1.05 The Kitchen Pharmacy. (R) 1.25 Film: The Desperadoes. (1943) Western, starring Glenn Ford. 3.05 Channel 4 Presents – Jonnie Peacock "Hit the Ground Running." (R) 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 Foxes Live: Wild in the City. 8.00 Supersize vs Superskinny. 9.00 Hidden Talent. 10.00 Facejacker. 10.35 Hit the Road Jack. 11.05 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R) 12.10 Random Acts. 12.15 Poker. 1.15 KOTV Boxing Weekly. 1.45 Sailing: America's Cup Uncovered. 2.10 The Grid. (R) 2.35 British F3. (R) 3.05 Wheelchair Rugby Highlights: London Prepares. (R) 4.00 Freesports on 4. 4.25 Road to London 2012: Paralympics Extra. A preview of the Paralympic swimming events. (R) 5.20 Full Metal Challenge. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Giant Animal Moves. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 The Mentalist. (R) 3.15 Film: Mystery Woman: Mystery Weekend. (2005) Whodunit, starring Kellie Martin. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Cowboy Traders; (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 The Gadget Show: World Tour; 5 News at 9. 9.00 Robson's Extreme Fishing Challenge. 10.00 10 Things I Hate About 1987. 11.00 Film: A Perfect Getaway. (2009) Thriller, starring Milla Jovovich. 12.50 SuperCasino. 4.00 House Doctor. (R) 4.25 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 5.15 Wildlife SOS. (R)

Tuesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Heir Hunters. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Robbed, Raided, Reunited. 11.30 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 6.55 Party Election Broadcast. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Holby City. 9.00 Crimewatch. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather.; National Lottery Update. 10.35 The Matt Lucas Awards. 11.10 Crimewatch Update. 11.20 Kevin Bridges: What's the Story? (R) 11.50 The Estate. (R) 12.20 Weatherview. 12.25 Sign Zone: The Apprentice. (R) 1.25 Horizon: Out of Control? (R) 2.25 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 3.15 Great British Railway Journeys. (R) 3.45 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. Two quarter-finals get under way. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Menu. 7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. The second session of two quarter-finals. 8.00 The Hairy Bikers' Bakeation. 9.00 Meet the Romans with Mary Beard. 10.00 Later Live – with Jools Holland. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Snooker: The World Championship. 12.10 Snooker Extra. 2.10 BBC News. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Rosemary & Thyme. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.25 Party Election Broadcast. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Countrywise Kitchen. 8.00 William and Kate: The First Year. 9.00 The Hunt for Bin Laden. 11.00 ITV News; Weather. 11.30 Regional News; Weather. 11.35 The Unforgettable Kenny Everett. (R) 12.05 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.35 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 The Treacle People. (R) 6.10 Sali Mali. (R) 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Secret Millionaire Australia. (R) 10.00 Location, Location, Location. (R) 11.00 How to Haggle for a House. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 River Cottage Veg Heroes. 12.35 Glamour Puds. (R) 1.05 The Kitchen Pharmacy. (R) 1.25 Film: The Desperadoes. (1943) Western, starring Glenn Ford. 3.05 Channel 4 Presents – Jonnie Peacock "Hit the Ground Running." (R) 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 Foxes Live: Wild in the City. 8.00 Four Rooms. 9.00 The Tallest Tower: Building the Shard. 10.00 The Killing. 10.55 2 Broke Girls. 11.25 Desperate Housewives. 12.25 Random Acts. 12.35 Music on 4: Mercury Prize Sessions. 12.50 Music on 4: Rita Ora: Intro. 1.05 Music on 4: 4Play: Marina and the Diamonds. 1.15 Music on 4: Spotlight. 1.30 Music on 4: 4Play: Devin. 1.45 Music on 4: Launched at Red Bull Studios. (R) 2.00 Film: In the Mix. (2005) Crime comedy, starring Usher. 3.30 The Pizza Miracle. 3.55 St Elsewhere. (R) 4.45 Smallville. (R) 5.25 Countdown. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Giant Animal Moves. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.15 Film: The Cradle Will Fall. (2004) Mystery, starring Angie Everhart. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Dirty Great Machines; (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 War Hero in My Family; 5 News at 9. 9.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. 10.00 CSI: NY. The team tries to track down a hitman. (R) 10.55 CSI: NY. (R) 11.55 CSI: Miami. (R) 12.50 SuperCasino. 4.00 House Doctor. (R) 4.25 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R)

Wednesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Heir Hunters. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Robbed, Raided, Reunited. 11.30 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Drought 2012 – An Inside Out Special; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Traffic Cops. 9.00 The Apprentice. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 The National Lottery Wednesday Night Draws. 10.45 Film: Chicago. (2002) Musical, starring Renee Zellweger; National Lottery Update. 12.30 Weatherview. 12.35 Sign Zone: See Hear. (R) 1.05 Watchdog. (R) 2.05 Madeleine: The Last Hope? – Panorama. (R) 2.35 Antiques Roadshow. (R) 3.35 Great British Railway Journeys. (R) 4.05 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 Daily Politics. 1.00 See Hear. 1.30 Live Snooker: The World Championship. Further quarter-final coverage from Sheffield. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Menu. 7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. The quarter-finals reach a conclusion in Sheffield. 8.00 Antiques Uncovered. 9.00 This World: The Shame of the Catholic Church. 10.00 The Apprentice: You're Fired. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Snooker: The World Championship. 12.10 Snooker Extra. 2.10 BBC News. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Rosemary & Thyme. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 The Unforgettable Hughie Green. 8.00 The British Soap Awards 2012. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Leah's Dream. (R) 11.35 Total Emergency. (R) 12.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.30 British Touring Car Championship. 3.45 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Secret Millionaire Australia. (R) 10.00 Location, Location, Location. (R) 11.00 How to Haggle for a House. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 River Cottage Veg Heroes. 12.35 Glamour Puds. (R) 1.05 Film: The Conqueror. (1956) Historical epic, starring John Wayne. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 Foxes Live: Wild in the City. 8.00 Four Rooms. 9.00 The Tallest Tower: Building the Shard. 10.00 The Killing. 10.55 2 Broke Girls. 11.25 Desperate Housewives. 12.25 Random Acts. 12.35 Music on 4: Mercury Prize Sessions. 12.50 Music on 4: Rita Ora: Intro. 1.05 Music on 4: 4Play: Marina and the Diamonds. 1.15 Music on 4: Spotlight. 1.30 Music on 4: 4Play: Devin. 1.45 Music on 4: Launched at Red Bull Studios. (R) 2.00 Film: In the Mix. (2005) Crime comedy, starring Usher. 3.30 The Pizza Miracle. 3.55 St Elsewhere. (R) 4.45 Smallville. (R) 5.25 Countdown. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Giant Animal Moves. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.15 Film: 'Til Lies Do Us Part. (2007) Premiere. Thriller, starring Paula Trickey. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 The Gadget Show: World Tour; (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 Cowboy Traders; 5 News at 9. 9.00 NCIS. 10.00 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. (R) 10.55 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. (R) 11.50 Poker: The Big Game. 12.50 SuperCasino. 4.00 House Doctor. (R) 4.25 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R)

Thursday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Heir Hunters. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Robbed, Raided, Reunited. 11.30 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders. Mandy secretly visits Lorraine in hospital; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Watchdog. The team investigates a potential dangerous fault in a popular family car. Last in the series. 9.00 New Tricks. (R) 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Question Time. 11.35 Vote 2012. 4.00 Holiday Weatherview. 4.05 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. The opening session of the first semi-final. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Menu. 7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. The second semi-final gets under way. 9.00 Shakespeare in Italy. 10.00 Grandma's House. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Snooker: The World Championship. 12.10 Film: Tsotsi. (2005) South African Oscar-winning drama, with Presley Chweneyagae. 1.40 Film: The Lives of the Saints. (2006) Comedy drama, starring David Leon. 3.15 Close. 3.55 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Rosemary & Thyme. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 The Trouble with Men: Tonight. 8.00 Emmerdale. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Long Lost Family. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Carol Vorderman. (R) 11.35 The Cube. (R) 12.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 3.00 The Trouble with Men: Tonight. (R) 3.25 ITV Nightscreen. 4.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 According to Jim. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Secret Millionaire Australia. (R) 10.00 Location, Location, Location. (R) 11.00 How to Haggle for a House. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. (R) 12.35 Glamour Puds. (R) 1.05 The Kitchen Pharmacy. (R) 1.15 Channel 4 Presents – Lee Pearson. (R) 1.20 Film: The Ladykillers. (1955) Ealing black comedy, starring Alec Guinness. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 Foxes Live: Wild in the City. 8.00 The World's Largest Snake. 9.00 The Hoarder Next Door. 10.00 Extreme A&E. 11.05 Random Acts. 11.10 Bin Laden: Shoot to Kill. (R) 12.45 Embarrassing Bodies. (R) 1.40 Hidden Talent. (R) 2.35 Girls on the Pull. (R) 3.05 Unreported World. (R) 3.30 The Secret Life of Buildings. (R) 4.25 My Eden. (R) 4.35 Time Team. (R) 5.30 Countdown. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Dangerous Drivers' School. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.15 Chinese Food in Minutes. (R) 3.20 Film: They Come Back. (2007) Supernatural drama, starring Mia Kirshner. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Police Interceptors; (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 World's Scariest Flights; 5 News at 9. 9.00 The Restaurant Inspector. 10.00 Film: Four Weddings and a Funeral. (1994) A man's misfortunes in love look set to change when he meets an American beauty at a wedding. Richard Curtis's romantic comedy, starring Hugh Grant, Andie MacDowell and John Hannah. 12.25 SuperCasino. 4.25 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R)

Friday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Heir Hunters. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Robbed, Raided, Reunited. 11.30 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show; BBC News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 Would I Lie to You? 9.00 Have I Got News for You. 9.30 Not Going Out. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 The Graham Norton Show. 11.20 The National Lottery Friday Night Draws. 11.30 The Matt Lucas Awards. (R) 12.05 EastEnders. 2.00 Weatherview. 2.05 Sign Zone: Titanic with Len Goodman. (R) 2.35 Countryfile. (R) 3.30 Question Time. (R) 4.30 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Vote 2012. 1.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. Further semi-final coverage from Sheffield. 2.00 Vote 2012. 3.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. Further semi-final coverage from Sheffield. 5.00 Vote 2012. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Menu. 7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. The penultimate session of the opening semi-final. 9.00 Maestro at the Opera. 10.00 QI. 10.30 Newsnight. 11.00 Weather. 11.05 Later with Jools Holland. 12.10 Snooker: The World Championship. 1.00 Taken. (R) 2.25 BBC News. 4.30 Close.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Rosemary & Thyme. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Poms in Paradise. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Jason Donovan. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: American Pie Presents Band Camp. (2005) Comedy sequel, starring Tad Hilgenbrinck and Eugene Levy. 12.15 The Store; ITV News Headlines. 2.15 Film: The Sting. (1973) Depression-era comedy drama, with Robert Redford and Paul Newman. 4.25 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV News.

Channel 4 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Secret Millionaire Australia. (R) 10.00 Location, Location, Location. (R) 11.00 How to Haggle for a House. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 Making Mad with Eric Lanlard. (R) 12.35 Glamour Puds. (R) 1.05 The Kitchen Pharmacy. (R) 1.15 Channel 4 Presents – Lee Pearson. (R) 1.20 Film: The Ladykillers. (1952) Musical comedy, starring Gene Kelly. 3.05 Channel 4 Presents – 2012: Mandip Sehmi – Part Two. (R) 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.30 Foxes Live: Wild in the City. 7.35 Unreported World. 8.00 Come Dine with Me. 9.00 8 Out of 10 Cats. 9.30 Very Important People. 10.00 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. 11.05 Stand Up for the Week. 11.55 Film: Hot Rod. (2007) Premiere. Comedy, starring Andy Samberg. 1.35 Random Acts. 1.40 My Name Is Earl. (R) 2.25 Dirty Sexy Money. (R) 3.50 Laid Off. (R) 4.00 St Elsewhere. (R) 4.50 Smallville. (R) 5.30 Countdown. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Dangerous Drivers' School. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 NCIS. (R) 3.15 Film: Jane Doe: Now You See It, Now You Don't. (2005) Thriller, starring Lea Thompson. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Robson's Extreme Fishing Challenge; (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 Dirty Great Machines; 5 News at 9. 9.00 The Mentalist. A popular teacher is murdered. 10.00 Castle. 10.55 Law & Order: Criminal Intent. (R) 11.55 Inside Hollywood. 12.00 SuperCasino. 4.00 Motorsport Mundial. 4.25 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R)

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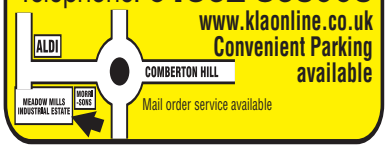

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Brain Gym No.166

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.

25	11	5	4	■	5	11	25	24	15	16	22	5
11	■	9	■	■	20	■	■	21	■	11	■	22
23	■	11	26	4	10	20	20	13	■	17	■	10
21	12	7	■	■	■	11	■	■	12	10	14	26
9	■	1	■	3	21	12	6	■	■	22	■	16
■	20	15	10	12	■	2	■	19	11	15	11	15
■	■	■	■	11	■	15	■	11	■	■	■	■
17	15	9	18	23	■	17	■	18	26	16 C	4	■
15	■	15	■	■	3	18	8	8	■	10 A	■	16
3	21	10	12	■	■	5	■	■	■	5	15	10
11	■	7	■	21	2	15	17	15	10	22	■	22
26	■	21	■	10	■	■	11	■	■	12	■	22
7	21	14	26	22	18	9	15	■	7	15	26	13

1	14
2	15
3	16 C
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10 A	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Z	P	S	D	V	B	M	X	I	A	R	T	E
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
C	K	L	Y	O	N	Q	U	F	J	W	G	H

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Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

4. Needle without an eye? (7)
8. Drop it, perhaps, being apathetic (6)
9. Gets the better of the teachers? (7)
10. Very much the opposite (6)
11. Really can fit when adjusted properly (2,4)
12. Car owner in distress, and showing it! (8)
18. Hide inside bandsmen's concert instruments (8)
20. He makes things hot for his employer (6)
21. There's no telling if it is to be kept (6)
22. Fight with some noise like a bird (7)
23. Foresee six coming in to eat (6)
24. Where to obtain a degree in common talk (7)

Down

1. The type inclined to emphasise (7)
2. They give people their addresses (7)
3. The pattern of old China (6)
5. If you lose them, you're lost! (8)
6. Released — or shot (3,3)
7. Smart evergreen (6)
13. Garment worn out (8)
14. Prepare to travel in a decent raincoat (7)
15. Seats one pays for (7)
16. A state of perfection (6)
17. They weren't worn long during the Sixties (6)
19. He takes orders and forms a circle (6)

Quick Clues:

Across

4. Recipe (7)
8. Wonder (6)
9. Law (7)
10. Kidnap (6)
11. Originate (6)
12. Scowling (8)
18. Not obligatory (8)
20. To journey (6)
21. To still (6)
22. To cloy (7)
23. Get down (6)
24. Fruit course (7)

Down

1. Lovable (7)
2. Boring tool (7)
3. Swordsman (6)
5. Unqualified (8)
6. Purpose (6)
7. Hidden (6)
13. Image worshipper (8)
14. Magnify (7)
15. A region's weather (7)
16. Decorated (6)
17. Evades (6)
19. Models of perfection (6)

1	■	2	■	3	■	4	5		6		7	
8						■		■		■		■
	■		■		■	9						
10						■		■		■		■
	■		■		■	■	11					
12					13			■		■		■
	■		■	■		■		■	14	■	15	
■	16	■	17		18			19				
20							■		■		■	
	■		■		■		21					
22							■		■		■	
		■		■		■	23					
24						■		■		■		

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Photography; 9 Ire; 10 Pentagram; 11 Essay; 13 Rancour; 14 Nuance; 16 Stairs; 18 Ingrate; 19 Again; 20 Extra hand; 21 Don; 22 Presumption. Down: 2 Hoe; 3 Tipsy; 4 Gentry; 5 Against; 6 Harmonica; 7 Fire engines; 8 Imprisoning; 12 Slaughter; 15 Cravats; 17 Becalm; 19 Audit; 21 Duo. QUICK - Across: 1 Opprobrious; 9 Bet; 10 Plausible; 11 Tacky; 13 Expanse; 14 Untidy; 16 Advise; 18 Time-lag; 19 Fight; 20 Variegate; 21 Era; 22 Institution. Down: 2 Put; 3 Reply; 4 Brazen; 5 Insipid; 6 Unbending; 7 Obstructive; 8 Deferential; 12 Catamaran; 15 Dullest; 17 Aghast; 19 Fleet; 21 Ego.

Sudoku

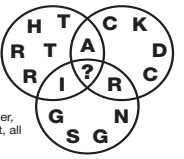
Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

	5	4					8	
		7		2		4	9	5
	8			5	9			
	7				6			
4			7		1	6		3
	1		5				4	
7			6	9			2	
	2	1		7		5		
		9				8	7	

Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION: The letter represented by the question mark is P. Pointer, spaniel, whippet, all breeds of dog.

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i10	1.2 ACTIVE	12/2012	£6,985	£8,945	£1,960
i10	1.2 ACTIVE	12/2012	£7,485	£9,370	£1,885
i20	1.2 CLASSIC 5DR	12/2012	£8,985	£10,820	£1,835
i20	1.2 COMFORT 5DR	12/2012	£9,485	£11,670	£2,185
i30*	1.4 CLASSIC	12/2012	£12,885	£14,945	£2,060
i30*	1.6 CRDI 110 CLASSIC	12/2012	£15,485	£17,695	£2,210
i30*	1.6 CRDI 110 ACTIVE	12/2012	£15,985	£18,440	£2,455
VELOSTER	1.6 STD	61/2011	£14,985	£18,000	£3,015
i40	1.6 Gdi ACTIVE TOUR	12/2012	£15,685	£19,094	£3,409
i40**	1.7 D STYLE SAL	12/2012	£20,485	£22,945	£2,460
i40**	1.7 CRDi PREM TOUR	12/2012	£24,985	£28,395	£3,410
ix35	1.7 CRDi STYLE	12/2012	£16,485	£19,095	£2,610
ix35	1.7 D PREMIUM	12/2012	£17,985	£20,945	£2,960
ix35	2.0 D 4WD PREMIUM	12/2012	£18,985	£24,095	£5,110
SANTA FE**	2.2 PREM 7STR	12/2012	£24,985	£28,955	£3,970
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The Meriva sits a little higher than normal offering good visability

Prices for Vauxhall's family saloon start at £13,000, rising to £22,000

Vauxhall takes fresh approach to Meriva

THE Meriva was introduced back in 2003 and it has been a very successful small vehicle with over 100,000 being sold in the UK.

By Bob Hickman

However it was getting a bit old and it needed a makeover and thankfully Vauxhall didn't go down the road of let's just tweak the headlamps, or put new door handles on. No,they have created a new and very stylish vehicle.

When you look at it, the front has the corporate look that is distinctively Vauxhall, but the biggest change without doubt is when you look at the side profile.

Vauxhall have taken the rather brave step of equipping the Meriva with what they describe as flex-doors – they hinge backwards so swing open towards the rear of the car at an angle of almost 90 degrees. That's handy for people with young children or mobility difficulties.

And the doors cannot be opened by the occupants while the Meriva is travelling at more than two mph.

The designers have really worked overtime. There is a completely new approach to the centre console and plenty of nooks and crannies to secrete the bits and pieces you seem to need on a long journey

The rear seats can be folded down to increase luggage capacity and the flex-space system allows for the movement of rear seats to create some extra head or shoulder room.

Lethargic

There is a choice of engine configurations for the Meriva with several petrols and diesels as options.

The petrols are going to be based primarily on 1.4-litre engines and the diesels will be either of 1.3 or 1.7 litres.

My Meriva had a 1.4-litre turbo-charged engine with a capacity of 1,364cc and produced 140 bhp, sufficient Vauxhall suggest for a top speed of 122 mph and 0-60 in just over 10 seconds.

The five-speed gearbox was quite easy to use but I did find that the vehicle could be lethargic in fourth and fifth.

The vehicles are well equipped, although on my model Vauxhall had spent £855 on a satnav system. I found my own £100 Tom-Tom was far more efficient.

I couldn't get the Vauxhall system to accept postcodes but it was a doddle with the Tom Tom.

Standard features on my vehicle included electric front windows which was a surprise, as the rear flexi doors have good old fashioned wind-up windows.

An absolute plethora of air bags are incorporated and Vauxhall have included an air bag deactivation switch so you can safely put a child seat on the front passenger seat.

I am not too convinced that an electronic parking brake is necessary on a vehicle of this type, but you get used to it.

From a driving perspective the vehicle is a little higher than normal so it does give you an extra bit of visibility, but nothing too dramatic.

It was comfortable and predictable to drive – nothing too exciting, but you don't expect that from this type of vehicle.

It does everything that you require from a saloon to transport the family about.

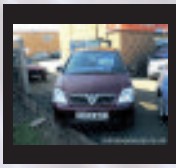
Pricing structures for the Meriva vary from £13,000 up to a hefty £22,000.

My 1.4-litre turbo was priced at £19,740, the extras fitted took it over £21,000 and the fuel figure quoted was a not too exciting 42.2 mpg.

CO2 is quoted at 156 and that puts it, sadly, in to the £155 excise duty range.

As with all new Vauxhalls it is eligible for the company's Lifetime 100,000 miles warranty.

Aldermere Car Sales



DEAL OF THE WEEK

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2000 X Reg PORSCHE BOXTER 3.2 S TIPTRONIC S ROADSTER 2-dr. Blue, FSH, climate control, 44,298 miles, alloys. £9,495
2008 08 Reg FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCi EDGE 5-dr Hatchback. Silver, 2 owners, FFSH, air con, cruise control, 53,124 miles reduced to £7,695
2007 07 Reg RENAULT GRAND SCENIC 1.9 DCi DYNAMIQUE 5-dr MPV. Blue, 64,964 miles, FSH, air con, alloys. £5,995
2005 05 Reg FORD MONDEO 2.2 TDCi 155 ST 5-dr Estate. Silver, 84,136 miles, service history, climate control, reduced to £4,995
2007 57 Reg MAZDA RX-8 (192) 4-dr Coupe. Black, 16,000 miles, 1 registered keeper, service history, climate control, alloys £4,995
2003 03 Reg AUDI A3 1.6SE Manual 5-dr Hatchback. Grey, 63,964 miles, 1 owner, service history, traction control £3,995
2003 03 Reg MERCEDES-BENZ S CLASS S500L Auto 4-dr. Silver, 105,673 miles, FSH, sunroof, air con £3,995
2004 04 Reg PEUGEOT 206 2.0 HDi 90 XSi (AC) 3-dr Hatchback. Blue, 63,449 miles, service history, air con, alloys £3,495
2004 04 Reg VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 ENERGY 5-dr. Blue, air con, service history, 64,000 miles £2,995
2002 02 Reg FORD GALAXY 2.3 GHIA 5-dr MPV. Red, 69,075 miles, FSH, climate control, alloys, reduced to £2,995
2004 04 Reg SEAT IBIZA 1.4 SE 3-dr Hatchback. Blue, 56,548 miles, service history, climate control, alloys reduced to £2,695
2002 52 Reg FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCi 130 GHIA X Auto 5-dr Hatchback. Blue, 72,367 miles, service history £2,995
2005 05 Reg MG ZR 1.4 105 TROPHY SE Hatchback 3-dr. Blue, service history, air con, alloys, 66,438 miles reduced to £2,295
2001 Y Reg TOYOTA RAV 4 2.0 NV 3-dr 4x4. Beige, 104,907 miles, service history, air con reduced to £2,295
2000 W Reg AUDI A6 1.8 T SE 5-dr Estate. Green, 95,843 miles, 2 owners, FSH, climate control, alloys, reduced to £2,295
2002 02 Reg MG MGTF 1.8 135 16V 2-dr Convertible. Green, 83,327 miles, service history, half leather interior £2,595
2003 53 Reg NISSAN ALMERA 1.5 S 5-dr Hatchback. Silver, FSH, air con, 43,627 miles, reduced to £2,295
2002 52 Reg VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6i CLUB Hatchback, 5-dr. Silver, 64,874 miles, air con £1,995
2003 03 Reg FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCi 115 LX 5-dr Estate. Blue, 122,987 miles, air con £1,795
2002 52 Reg FIAT PUNTO 1.2 ACTIVE 5-dr Hatchback. Blue, 69,981 miles, 1 registered keeper, service history £1,795
2002 02 Reg PEUGEOT 106 1.1 INDEPENDENCE 3-dr Hatchback. Silver, 83, 256 miles, taxed & MOTd reduced to £995
2001 51 Reg CITROEN C5 HDi SX 5-dr Hatchback. Blue, 11,700 miles, FSH, air con, alloys reduced to £995
2001 Y Reg FORD MONDEO 2.0 ZETEC Hatchback 5-dr. Blue, 84,296 miles, air con, alloys reduced to £995
1998 R Reg VOLVO S40 2.0i 4-dr Saloon. Green, 60,132 miles reduced to £695

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2003 53 FIAT 1.2 ACTIVE SPORT Metallic Blue, Ideal First Car, Lovely Condition £2499
2005 05 FORD FIESTA 1.6 GHIA Automatic 5-door, Metalic Black, Blue Leather Trim, Alloys, Air Con, Lovely Condition £4499
2009 58 FORD FOCUS ZETEC 1.6 Automatic Estate. Silver, 1 Owner, FSH, 17,130 miles recorded £7999
2007 07 FORD KA 1.3 STUDIO Black, CD player, 22,863 miles recorded, lovely condition, ideal first car £2999
2005 55 HONDA JAZZ 1.4 DSi SE SPORT Silver, full main dealer history, superb condition £5499
2002 02 KIA RIO 1.3L Yellow Great Value £1599
2009 09 MAZDA 3 1.6 TAKARA 5-door. Silver, 22,698 miles recorded, Climate Control, Alloys, Parking Sensors £7999
2006 56 MINI COOPER S Metallic Grey, half leather interior, chili pack, air con, many extras £7999
2007 07 MINI ONE 1.6 CONVERTIBLE 2-dr. Metallic Black, FSH, air con, 54,972 miles recorded ~~Was £8299~~ Now £7799
2003 03 MITSUBISHI SPACESTAR 1.9 DiD EQUIPPE Grey Metallic. Very Good Condition, Air Con £2899
2008 08 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 VISIA Black, 1 owner, 23,041 miles recorded, FSH, excellent condition £9499
2005 05 PEUGEOT 206 CC 1.6 SE Metallic Blue, Electric Roof, CD Player, Ready for Summer £3999
2006 06 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 VERV 3-door. Metallic Blue, Superb Condition £3999
2008 58 VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE Automatic. Blue, 1 owner, air con, FSH, lovely condition £5999

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Leave the humdrum behind in Honda's one-off

DON'T let common sense rule your life. There are plenty of things that you need to keep a cool head over, the humdrum and the everyday.

Most of us need to apply this logic to our choice of car too, and Honda makes very good, very sensible cars. There's a brand-new Civic now of course, but the previous generation was no less impressive. And aside from the very slick and modern exterior and futuristic interior, it was a sensible and solid as any Honda.

Then it brought out the Type-R version, which looked the business and went pretty well thanks to the fiery 2.0-litre VTEC engine. But that wasn't enough for Mugen, the tuning arm of Honda.

It created the Civic Type-R Mugen.

It was lightened by 100kg, including beautiful lighter alloy wheels and composite body panels, lowered and stiffened suspension and super grippy tyres.

There were also some significant engine upgrades that liberated an extra 40bhp and 15lb.ft of torque.

In short, it was a genuine fire-breathing hot hatch. It was also not cheap at £38,995, although you were getting one of only 20 cars with some serious engineering added.

The new Civic's arrival should have been the end of the story, but there were a few remaining cars and the Mugen people decided to go back and make it even more crazy. By increasing the engine capacity to 2.2 litres, power went up to 256bhp and torque to 177lb.ft for one final hurrah.

And what a car it is. The exterior upgrades include a BTCC-like massive rear wing, which on another car could look daft but on the Civic's modern, radical shape looks just right.

It is as purposeful as you could wish. It looks ready to head out on to the track and set a pole position time.

Climb inside and you drop straight into the very huggy Recaro seats. Apart from being very supportive and comfortable, they have huge side bolsters that clamp you in place.

Turn the key, finger the starter button and the engine spins into life. The gear lever slots firmly into first, and the upgraded clutch has a sharp bite – a brief kangaroo moment is inevitable until you get used to it and it sums up the whole car. It is a precision tool that needs to be driven with purpose.

Within 50 yards you'll notice that the suspension is firm. On really rough roads you might wish it was a shade softer, but if you want a compromised car then look elsewhere. You need to work this car hard and once the needle passes 6,000rpm, the exhaust note turns from a roar to a manic blare.

It surges forward with renewed vigour and the grin grows further across your face.

It's an intoxicating mix of noise and pace. The uprated brakes give a very firm pedal action and the sharpness of the steering takes over as you peel into a bend, the front tyres biting hard and gripping more than you thought possible.

You forget the price tag and savour the engineering that has gone into it and the visceral experience that it delivers.

The new Honda. Forget the price tag and enjoy the experience

Pollution drops and so do the costs of MG6

Production improvements at MG's Birmingham factory mean bonuses for car buyers

IMPROVED production methods have paid dividends for customers of the award-winning MG6 who will get better fuel consumption, lower CO2 emissions and less road tax.

On-the-road prices of all MG6 GT and MG6 Magnette models have been reduced thanks to the new systems.

Many of the production advances have been made at MG Motor UK's factory in Birmingham where final assembly is carried out. The cars are designed and engineered by 300 professionals at two centres of excellence at the Birmingham site.

The latest 2012 cars see C02 figures drop from 184g/km to 174g/km which reduces the vehicle excise duty by one band. This saves £50 on the first year's road tax and £20 a year after that.

Fuel consumption improves with the urban cycle increasing from 26.1mpg to 27.7mpg. The extra urban cycle increases from 45.2mpg to 48.7mpg and the combined figure goes from 35.6mpg to 37.7mpg.

Improved VED figures mean recommended on-the-road prices for all MG6 models drop by £40. MG6 ownership starts from £15,455 for an MG6 GT fastback in S model trim.

Prices for MG6 GT models in SE trim are reduced to £16,955 and the TSE trim model comes down from £18,995 to £18,955. The flagship MG6 Magnette model drops to £19,955.

Guy Jones, sales and marketing director at MG Motor UK said: "This is yet more good news from MG. It comes on top of a fantastic debut by Jason Plato and Andy Neate in racing versions of the MG6 at the Brands Hatch opening races of the Dunlop MSA British Touring Car Championship.

"We scooped the What Car? 2012 Security Award at the start of the year and we are expanding our dealer network all the time so things are really going well for us. But most importantly, people are now realising what a great value for money package the MG6 is as well as being a fantastic car to drive."

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In these days of rising energy bills you may consider renewable technologies to save you money but before you invest in any renewable technologies you should always make sure your home is thoroughly insulated in order to make the maximum savings. Take advice from a local builder and The Federation of Master Builders.

When starting a building project always use a contract which should include details such as start and completion dates, costs and payment plan. You can download a free contract from the Federation of Master Builders (FMB), the largest trade association in the UK construction industry, http://www.fmb.org.uk/find-a-builder/free-contracts/.

Protect your investment in your home by getting building work covered by an insurance-backed warranty, such as those offered by Build Assure. Build Assure offer a wide range of insurance products to suit your individual requirements and building project. Visit www.fmbuildassure.co.uk to find out more.

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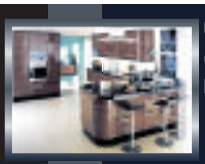

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1951 SUN WASP TANDEM, in all original condition as it left the factory. Offers around £450. Call for more details. 01384 828668.

collectables & memorabilia

WOLVES HOME PROGRAMMES, 1996-2007, 11 seasons, excellent condition, £55 ono. Telephone 01902 780724.

elderly & disabled

ACORN left hand straight stairlift, 18 months old, due to bereavment must sell accept any serious offer. 01889 579147.

STAIRLIFT 13 steps, swivel seat, seat belt fitted. £1,200. 01902 820862.

furniture

CABIN BED Free to Collector. Little used. Drawers and cupboards underneath. Perton. 01902 568782

CORNER UNIT SUITE with both end reclines, burgundy, cost £1,500, 2 weeks old, still wrapped, will sell, **£1,000** or will exchange for leather Chesterfield.
07957 666899 - 0121 5560898.

DINING CHAIRS, x6 leather, G Zone, as new, cost £600, sell £150 can split. Double memory foam mattress, £40. 07799 151070.

NEW 3-piece suite, brown leather, unwanted gift, cost £1,200. Can deliver. £390. 07570 48202.

health & beauty

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Natural Organic Colouring
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West Mids, DY8 4BA
01384 444007

house clearances

A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Tel: 07852 172641.

items for sale

ADVERTISE SIX NIGHTS per week from as little as £10.44 per night plus vat, with Trade Contract Advertising. Published Full circulation Express and Star, two Chronicles and Internet. Interested? Telephone Cynthia Jones on 01902 319667.

CORRUGATED roofing sheets Also tile effect /box profile /curved and 2 purlins.
Hornsey Steels 01547 530419

items wanted

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FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES Tickets and other sports memorabilia. Top prices paid for the right item.
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Any make, also live steam.
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Anything considered.
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caravans / motorhomes

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6 -berth, large decking, Llanbrynmair, Mid-Wales, quiet site, 2 fish pools and 20 minutes to the coast.
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18ft, 4-berth, 1995., full cooker, end bathroom, shower, H+C, cassette toilet, motor mover, awning, light-weight, extras.
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Telephone 07787 374455

AVONDALE DART 2007, 510/5, 5-berth, full spec, very good condition. £6,900 ono.
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BAILEY PAGEANT CD Majestic, 2 Berth, cooker, fridge, shower, Isabella Awning, mover, good condition, £2,995. 0797 797 9723.

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CARAVAN AWNING, Pyramid Tuscany, size 900. Burgundy, alloy poles. Draft skirt, curtains. Used 3 times. Excellent condition. £270 ono. 01743 368714.

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guns & dogs

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CHALLENGE Extreme self propelled petrol motor mower, new, £99 ono.
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jumble sales / fetes

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pets corner

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

BRITISH BULL DOG, KC Reg. male, 20 months old, £700. 01952 812459 or 01952 275132.

CAVAPOO Pups, Cavalier x Poodles, all colours. £450/£650. Also Cavaliers £300/£450. Licenced Breeder 49 yrs. 07867 530504.

CHIHUAHUA PUPPIES 12 weeks old, beautiful puppies, £350 each. 07759 737894.

CHIHUAHUA PUPPIES KC, 1 boy, 1 girl, five generations, £800/£1,000. 01902 734051.

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www.forest-dog-rescue.org.uk

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property

accommodation to let

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It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

NOTICE TO READERS
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A ONE bedroom flat for over 50's in Chapel Ash, Wolverhampton, £340pcm. Wednesfield HA 01952 463603.

A ONE BEDROOM unfurnished Flat, on Moseley Parklands Est, near Junc 2 M54. 01902 790784.

BEDSITS & STUDIOS, Compton Rd, W-ton, DSS 35+ welcome, low rent, no upfront deposits, viewing essential, 07773 256542

BEDSITS: Clean / Quiet, close to all amenities. Available in Penn and Compton area. 07768 687831.

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BILSTON & TETTENHALL, Studio flats to rent, low deposits, DSS 35+ welcome, 07773 256589

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DSS ok.
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OLDBURY/BLACKHEATH new build, 2 bed flats. Rent /Dep Neg. 0121 550 0064 / 07970 980955.

PENNFIELDS, W'ton, 2 & 3 Bed houses, CH, DG, Deposits start from £200, DSS welcome. Call now 07773 256589

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SEDGLEY / GORNAL Modern one bed ground floor flat. CH, DG, parking. £395pcm 01902 326270

SEDGLEY AND WOODSETTON One bedroom sheltered flat / parking. Must be 60 or over. Contact CHADD on 01902 884178

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STUDIO FLAT Finchfield, sought after location, garden, pull down bed, modern kitchen furnished, £395pcm. Call 07813 040674.

TETTENHALL QUIET cul-desac, one bedroom flat, £395 pcm, no DSS. 07866 014788.

TETTENHALL, W'ton, 2 Bed flats, clean tidy properties, DG, CH, DSS considered, 07773 256589

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THREE BED Town house, excellent condition, CH, DG, garage, Ettingshall area. £500pcm. 07944 577633.

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WEST BROMWICH, modern self contained bedsit, near town centre, no upfront deposits, DSS 35+ ok, 07773 256542

WOLLESCOTE Stourbridge, modern, 2 bed, full CH, off road parking, £485pcm. 07748 941611.

coast & country

FULL FURNISHED log cabin for sale at beautiful Clarach Bay, Aberystwyth sleeps 4.
For details call: 01497 851208.

flats for sale

GROUND FLOOR FLAT, 2 bed, gas ch, superb corner position, situated best part of Penn, £118,000 o.n.o. 01902 331155.

properties wanted

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business

commercial premises

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550sqft, Includes Office & Toilet, Roller Shuttered, Main Road Frontage, Reduced Rents,
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public & legal notices

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE
Aston Manor Brewery Co Ltd of 173 Thimble Mill Lane, Aston, Birmingham B7 5HS is applying to change an existing licence as follows:
To add an operating centre to keep SIX goods vehicles and SIX trailers at Aston Manor Brewery Co Ltd, Nelson's Wharf, Sandy Lane Industrial Estate, Stourport on Severn DY13 9QB
Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

jobs

courses

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employment wanted

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motoring

accessories & services

accessories & services

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01384 564751 or 07831 365873.

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cars over £1500

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CITREON BERLING van 1.9 diesel, 2004, CL, airbag, EW, roof rack, 6 months tax, full MoT, £1,795 ono. 07989 417128.

CITROEN C8 2.0 HDi SX 7 seater, 56 plate, black, 36k, tax and MoT, FSH, EW, climate control, air bags, £5,595. 07817 565839.

FIAT PANDA 1.2 DYNAMIC
2007, 5-door, 4,000 miles, light blue, MoT, 1 owner, Tax.
£4,000.
Telephone
01384 403604 or 07880 582822.

FORD FIESTA 1.25 Zetec, 56 reg, tax, long MoT, 54k, lady owner, well looked after, any trial, £3,450 ono. Penn 07961 314354.

FORD FIESTA LX 1.4, 04, 3 door, black, air con, long MoT and tax, low miles, good condition, £2,400. 07905 624619.

FORD FOCUS 1.8 ZETEC
2002, met dark blue, 5dr, 11 months MoT, CD, tax, fsh, alarm, EW, EM, air con, alloys, lovely condition,
£1,700.
07878 146322.

FORD FOCUS Estate, 1.6 Zetec, 2004, silver, immaculate, full MoT, tax Oct, new cam belt, SH, £1,795 ono. 07931 720470.

FORD MONDEO 2.0LX, auto, h/back, 05, met green, black interior, 51k, service record, tax, MoT, £2,975 ono. 07739 837137.

FORD MONDEO ZETEC
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07979 244349 or 01902 895438.

FORD STREETKA 1.6
2003, excellent condition, 36,500 miles, 6 months tax and MoT, usual extras including air con, alloy wheels, etc.
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Telephone 01384 277750.

JAGUAR X-TYPE

51 plate, only 88,000 miles, excellent condition, fsh, all receipts, tax, MoT.

£2,000.

Telephone 01952 550788 or 07525 498468.

LAND ROVER Defender 110 County 2.5TD, 1989, green, 114k, tax, MoT, good condition, used daily, £2,250 ono. 07854 857241.

LANDROVER DISCOVERY XS
Diesel, Auto, P Reg, full 12 months MoT, tax to August, seven seater, silver, good condition.
£1,950. o.n.o.
01902 333481.

LANDROVER FREELANDER 1.8 Petrol 03, very good condition, 12 mths MoT, 6 mths Tax. £2,600. ono. 07779 666069 / 01952 882372.

MINI COOPER
1992, british racing green, full MoT, central locking, leather.
£1,995 ono.
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MINI COOPER

2005(05), black with white roof and side mirrors, 32,800 miles, MoT and tax August, fsh, abs, e/w, e/m, airbags, alarm, pas, c/l, stereo, CD player, petrol, new tyres and exhaust, very good condition.

£5,500.

Telephone 01952 403296.

MINI COOPER PARK LANE
Metallic royal grey, 2 lady owners, 32,000 miles, 11 months MoT, 5 months tax, full leather seats, alloys, new front tyres, brakes, exhaust.
£6,850. 01384 486727.

MITSUBISHI L200 twin cab pick up, 2004, tax/MoT, service history. Very good condition, £3,500 ono. 07885 772238.

PEUGEOT 206 03 reg, 1.4LX, dark blue, 5dr, only 42, excellent condition, AC, EW, CL, new MoT, tax Aug, £2,100 ono. 07971 898592.

PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Look, Petrol, 2003, 3 dr, silver, PAS, 17K, FSH, Warranty, MoT/Tax Jul, immaculate £4,750 ono. 07812 603187.

PEUGEOT 206, Diesel, 54 reg, Taxed and MoT'd, alarm, £2,200. o.n.o. Good condition 07837 758185.

PEUGEOT 307 SW 2.0HDI, 2004, new Tbelt, tyres, 11 months MoT, 5 months tax, sunroof, a/c, esp, etc, 2 owners, excellent condition, £2,500 ono. 07906 850931.

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1998, red, full MoT, 6 months tax, 88,000 miles, good condition. £3,000 ono. Tele 07926 067452.

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TOYOTA YARIS 1.3GLS AUTO
One owner, 52 reg, 90,000 miles, SH, MoT Feb 2013, 5 months tax, red, 3dr. Absolutely immaculate.
£1,699.
07970 046521.

MUST BE SEEN

VAUXHALL ASTRA SRI 1.9 CDTi 150 X-PACK.
06, silver, 65k, lady owner, full service history (just serviced), 6 months tax, 12 months MoT, fast and economical, a/c, alloys, very clean, good condition, first to see will buy.
£5,150 ono.
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VAUXHALL SIGNUM ELEGANCE Direct 2.2 silver, 04 reg, 68k miles, 12 mnths MoT, 6 mnths tax, fsh £2,500. 01902 333684.

VAUXHALL SIGNUM ELEGANCE Direct 2.2 silver, 04 reg, 68k miles, 12 mnths MoT, 6 mnths tax, fsh £2,500. 01902 333684.

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VAUXHALL VECTRA DESIGN 2.2
Petrol, MoT, silver, alloys, CD player, good condition, e/w, cruise control, hatchback, 04 reg.
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01543 257679.

VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6, silver, 05 reg, 52,800 miles, a/c, s/h, MoT Dec, Tax June, alloys, 1 owner, £3,495. o.n.o. 07984 751732.

VAUXHALL ZAFIRA, 7 seater, s/h, maroon, 94,000 miles, 3 months tax, 10 months MoT, 2 litre diesel, £2,300. 07807 593920.

VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE 2.0, automatic, 51 reg, 40,000 miles, fsh, grey, abs, alarm, MoT, metallic paint, pas, tax, alloys, vgc, £3,499. 01384 892725.

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Offers around £14,750 ono.
07974 430296 or email
adamrtaylor@mac.com

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01902 894107 - 07967 255569.

VW GOLF TDi S estate, 2003, 73,000 miles, red, CD changer, bluetooth car kit, MoT and tax, £2,795 ono. 07891 385048.

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FIAT PUNTO GT Turbo, 02, yellow, £675 ono. New turbo, body kit,
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FORD FIESTA
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£450 ono.
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FORD FIESTA V reg, red, full MoT, good condition.
£470.
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FORD FOCUS 2001, black, very good condition inside and out, MoT Dec, tax May, EW and EM, £1,050 ono. 07772 922510

FORD KA 1.3
Hatchback, 2002, 83k, blue, petrol, clean, 2 lady owners, 12 months MoT, 6 months tax, air bag, pas, new stereo, CD, USB/ipod, immobiliser, new tyres, 3 new shock absorbers, V5, log book, MoT receipts.
£870 ono. 07714 649121.

FORD KA 02 plate, MoT August, no tax, £895.
01902 250605

FORD KA 1.2 1998, long MoT, FSH, very clean car, reliable, £695 ono. 07511 296989. Brierley Hill.

FORD KA 3 1.3, 1998, silver, high spec, lady owner, low miles, MoT, great runner, £700 ono.
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FORD PUMA 1.6, 51 reg, MoT September, 6 months Tax, 110,000 miles, alloys, CD, excellent condition. £895. 07530 671922.

FREELANDER 1.8, 3dr, 02 reg, 96,000 miles, MoT/tax, black. £1,499.
07831 273290.

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PEUGEOT 106 2001, blue, 11 months MoT, taxed, excellent condition, very reliable, £925 ono. 01902 847139, 07880 673491.

PEUGEOT 206 1.4 GLX, 3dr, silver, X Reg, 71K, AC, 12 months MoT, good runner, any trial, £950. 07916 256133.

RENAULT CLIO, 2002, 95,000 miles, silver, abs, electric windows, air bag, alarm, MoT, central locking, pas, tax, stereo, CD, £875 ono. 07540 761320.

RENAULT LAGUNA 1.8 Extreme, 53 reg, MoT Oct, 70K miles, new cat fitted, £1,000 ono.
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2002, tax Sept, MoT July, 114 plus, silver, FSH, twin roofs, runs well.
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01384 918768 / 07773 337496.

ROVER 100 Knightsbridge, 11 months MoT, tax, 68k, 1.1, 1996, 2dr, very economical, blue, £550. 07964 350386.

ROVER 25, 2001, diesel, 12 months MoT, taxed, new brakes, good condition, reliable, £875 ono. 07834 918756.

ROVER 600 1997, Honda engine, black, new tyres, exhaust, low mileage, good condition inside and out, £450. 01902 306544.

ROVER 75 1.8T Connoisseur, 52 plate, MoT till September, very good condition, £950. 07826 214479.

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TOYOTA COROLLA 1.3 Sportif, 3dr, red, P reg, full MoT, tax, service history, reliable, £550 ono. 01952 813369/07870 534855.

VAUXHALL Astra, 1.6 LS, X reg, silver, petrol, 5dr, full MoT, 5 months tax, EW, PAS, great condition, £750 ono. 07413 572992.

VAUXHALL ASTRA SXi, V reg., long tax, MoT, silver, alloys, excellent condition, economical, reliable, £895 o.n.o. 07767 368754.

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07913 006161.

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01952 375880 or 07815 799319.

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Football tables

Kidderminster & District League

Saturday

Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Netherton Ath	25	21	1	3	86	25	64
Kings Heath 08	24	19	3	2	86	30	60
Two Gates	25	16	3	6	76	33	51
Dudley Villa	26	15	6	5	68	40	51
Dudley Wd Ath	26	16	2	8	78	54	50
Wyre Forest	28	15	4	9	72	50	49
Birch Coppice	27	13	4	10	70	43	43
Burlish Oly	25	13	2	10	68	50	41
Lodgefield Pk	27	11	4	12	56	60	37
Claverley	28	11	3	14	67	81	36
Kinver	27	10	5	12	63	77	35
Areley Kings	26	9	6	11	59	52	33
Orton Vale	27	8	3	16	41	96	27
Oldswinford	26	5	2	19	33	84	16
Claverley Colts	27	4	2	21	36	106	14
Castlecroft Rgrs	28	2	0	26	30	108	6

Sunday

Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Kingswinford	23	18	3	2	76	18	57
Woodside Utd	21	17	3	1	67	15	54
Grange Ath	21	15	3	3	75	24	48
Franche Village	25	12	5	8	51	42	41
Oakham Utd	23	11	4	8	52	41	37
Bromley	21	11	2	8	50	32	35
Honved	24	10	5	9	60	49	35
Harriers Trust	22	11	2	9	50	40	35
Wolverley Ath	25	10	5	10	46	58	35
Alveley Social	24	6	2	12	33	58	20
Wordsley AFC	23	6	2	15	39	72	20
Orton Vale	23	4	6	13	31	48	18
New Olympic	24	3	6	15	31	81	15
Dudley Sports	21	1	0	20	13	96	3

Division One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Haden Rgrs	21	17	2	2	61	22	53
Phoenix Sports	18	14	2	2	66	19	44
Caves	24	13	3	8	58	41	42
Station	21	11	4	6	48	32	37
Swan Bewdley	20	10	4	6	39	27	34
Sptg Hagley	23	13	4	6	63	36	33
Wilden Village	20	8	6	6	49	40	30
Chainwire	22	6	4	12	33	55	22
Stour Park Rgrs	21	6	3	12	39	54	21
Sporting Oak	21	5	3	13	35	55	18
W'gon & Horse	22	5	3	14	41	69	18
Bull & Bladder	21	5	1	15	30	61	16
W H Sports	22	5	1	16	24	75	14

Division Two

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Gornal Wood	20	18	2	0	111	24	56
T S Units	22	14	3	5	50	37	45
Snooks	20	13	4	3	68	20	43
S'bridge Rgrs	19	11	4	4	68	34	36
New Inn Sports	25	11	3	11	74	73	36
Wall Heath	23	10	5	8	54	49	35
S'bridge G'boys	21	10	5	6	47	46	35
Areley Kings	23	9	4	10	44	54	31
White Horse C	22	9	3	10	60	60	30
At'ico Top Hse	26	8	3	15	47	90	27
Chadd Corbett	19	7	4	8	36	47	25
Kewford Eagles	25	4	6	15	37	68	18
Cally	23	5	2	16	41	60	17
Gigmill	26	3	2	21	38	113	11

Division Three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Royal Exchange	24	22	2	0	110	25	68
Dudley	21	15	3	3	70	34	48
Stourbridge Ath	21	15	1	5	94	38	43
Darby End Ath	19	14	0	5	58	33	42
Maypole Rgrs	25	14	0	11	72	65	41
Sporting Club	22	13	0	9	43	48	39
Plough Dukes	21	9	4	8	49	46	31
Bewdley Arch	25	8	5	12	69	58	29
Wordsley Lions	25	8	2	15	54	76	26
Wollaston Celt	23	8	3	12	49	78	26
Arley	22	8	1	13	53	68	25
Rock Sports	23	6	2	15	34	66	20
H R's Spts Bar	22	2	2	18	21	106	8
Mostyn Rgrs	23	3	1	19	32	76	7

Division Four

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
N'ton Colts Sen	22	21	0	1	136	12	63
Withymoor	25	19	2	4	92	41	59
Lakeside Utd	27	14	6	7	55	48	48
Pockets	24	13	8	3	79	41	47
Labour In Vain	25	14	3	8	78	61	45
Ferndale	28	13	5	10	49	46	44
Netherton	28	11	7	10	68	85	40
S'dge Glass W	28	12	3	13	56	59	39
Snooks Ath	29	12	2	15	58	81	38
Wilden V Res	26	10	6	10	71	60	36
Wyre Forest	27	8	4	15	63	98	28
Clarkes	28	7	6	15	44	69	27
Wolverley Socl	24	7	4	13	49	76	25
Wollaston Lion	29	5	5	19	60	95	20
Unity	23	4	6	13	53	74	18
Vizi Bar	27	3	5	19	47	111	14

Division Five

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Tap House	28	24	1	3	99	25	73
Brit Wollaston	24	15	5	4	66	26	50
Areley Kings R	22	15	4	3	50	17	49
Abberley Vale	25	14	4	7	66	33	46
Queens Head	23	13	2	8	52	31	41
Preston 2010	24	10	8	6	61	43	38
Harriers Arms	23	11	3	9	51	41	36
King Billy	24	9	8	7	66	48	35
Hamilton Rgrs	27	9	4	14	56	53	31
Hillgrove	27	8	4	15	41	74	28
Star 07	27	7	6	14	52	49	27
Withymoor W	26	7	2	17	33	76	23
Heta	22	9	8	5	52	31	18
Royal Ex Res	24	1	4	19	28	69	7
Forest Rgrs	26	2	1	23	11	168	7

Harriers suffer play-off blow with loss

Luton 1 Kidderminster Harriers 0

KIDDERMINSTER'S hopes of a Blue Square Bet Premier Division play-off place were given a big jolt by this defeat.

Harriers manager Steve Burr refused to accept that his team's chance had gone, even though this defeat at the weekend left Luton in the final play-off place by a point over Harriers and with a game in hand. That match was being played on Tuesday night.

Burr could not conceal his disappointment at losing to their rivals for the play-off spot but insisted after the game that it is not beyond Harriers to wrest it back. "It's out of our control now making the play-offs, but it's not over yet," he claimed.

He was also upset at the manner in which his side conceded the all-important goal against Luton.

"It was a straightforward punt that we should have dealt with. I was disappointed with the goal but there wasn't a lot in the game," Burr said.

Harriers' record of scoring late goals deserted them, even though an 88th-minute Luke Jones header came back off an upright and in the ensuing melee Jake Howells appeared to use his arm to keep out the follow- up effort from crossing the goal-line with keeper Mark Tyler beaten.

The visitors struggled to get a hold on the game as a vociferous crowd of 8,415 created a powerful atmosphere.

Curtis Osano sent a low drive narrowly wide and Lee Vaughan's goal-line block denied Janos Kovaks, who spooned the rebound high over the bar as Luton took the game to Kidderminster.

Marvin Johnson wasted Harriers' best effort of the first period, blazing a 20-yard shot wide.

Luton started the second half brightly with Jake Howells and Andre Gray going close, but Harriers maintained shape a to frustrate the hosts and the 751 travelling fans sensed their side might just snatch a goal on the break.

Tyler became the busier of the two keepers, reacting quickly to intercept a Dave Hankin centre before making a fine save to divert Johnson's low drive.

On 67 minutes Harriers broke forward, causing panic between Tyler and Kovacs. The ball ran loose and Tyler whacking it downfield. Lee Vaughan and Luke Jones hesitated and keeper Tony Breeden was caught in two minds as Robbie Willmott latched onto the ball before lashing an angled shot into the bottom corner.

This was rough justice on Harriers who were enjoying their best

Gilt Edge return with players' gold medals

Samurai Judo Club

SAMURAI Judo Club held one of their biggest events yet at Gilt Edge with nearly 60 clubs taking part in their junior and senior low grades open championships.

The Samurai took six gold medals but were just pipped for first place by Stroud Judo Club, who took seven.

The juniors were on Saturday, starting with the lower grade boys. Cameron Hobby opened the scoring for the Samurai with two emphatic maximum point throws against players from Wolverhampton and Telford to earn a place in the final against a Wrekin player. This was a tight match but a single high score against Hobby decided the match and he had to settle for silver.

Patrick Kealey started by throwing a Wrekin player for maximum points in just four seconds. Another maximum against a Birmingham player from Bishop Challoner club took him into the final against a player from Marham, Essex. Kealey looked the better player but made one mistake and was caught by a good throw.

Gained

James Hemer started well with a maximum-point throw against a Stroud player, but then lost against the run of play to an opponent from Newbury, Berkshire. He came back well to win the bronze.

Joe Edwards, Luke Haynes, Ben Dunn and Andy Calloway all added bronze.

The first of the girls lower grades was Leah Grosvenor. Two maximum-point throws put her into the final against a girl from Worcester. Before the end of the first minute Grosvenor had gained a high score from a throw and followed into an unbreakable groundhold for maximum points and her first gold medal.

Charlotte Spokes won a bronze after four tough contests, but then Becky Hobby came on and it was gold again after she emphatically defeated two London players and one from Wem, Shropshire. All of her contests lasted less than a minute.

From left, medal winners Darcie Hancocks, Leah Grosvenor and Bryony Griffiths from Samurai Judo Club show their prizes at Gilt Edge. *Picture: DE Photos*

Angel Wilkes reached the final and lost a tremendous battle with a Dudley girl by two scores to one.

In the boys higher grades section lightweight Matthew Hemer won bronze.

Jake Humphreys would have been a gold medal favourite in the lower grades, but the club felt it fairer to put him into the higher ones. A win and a loss left him to fight a London player for bronze, but he was beaten.

Joe Dunn started well with two maximum-point wins against players from Bristol and Dudley. This put him into the semi-final against a much more experienced player from Birmingham's Lordswood club which he lost and had to settle for bronze.

Darcie Hancocks was the first Samurai in the higher grade girls. A shortage of players at her light weight saw her tackle heavier players as categories were combined. But she beat players from Dudley and Telford to reach the final against a player from Tower Hamlets in London. Hancocks had the skill but was pinned by her rival's greater strength and had to settle for silver.

A series of hard-fought victories took Bryony Griffiths into the final against the current British Schools Champion, from Bradley Stoke Judo Club, Bristol.

Griffiths had the better attacks while her opponent relied more on counters. Griffiths gained a high score and allowed her rival no way back, taking gold. Hobby had a go in the higher grades and fought well to finish seventh. Charlotte Read added another bronze to leave the Samurai with three gold, four silver and nine bronze medals.

The second day saw the senior grades below black belt having a go. The men's lower grades section had just one Samurai entrant, karate expert Trevor Connolly. He finished fifth in his judo competition debut.

There were five Samurai players in the men's higher grades. Dan Watson, in the super-lightweights, was making his senior debut, having just turned 16. He started with a superb maximum-point win against a player from 2As, Birmingham, but then lost to a player from Dowty Judo Club, Gloucestershire. He came back to win the bronze.

Four wins took Brendan Crummy to the lightweight semi-final against a London player. Crummy was a little too eager and advanced too quickly and was caught by a good throw for maximum points. One of his earlier victims went on to take gold while Crummy had to settle for the bronze. Ryan Hardiman could not finish in the medals.

Mike Marsden's improvement showed in the higher grades middleweights. Four maximum-point wins took him to the final where beat a Gloucestershire player for the second time to win gold.

Chances

Alex Poulton won through to the final where he defeated a Solihull player, taking a low score and hanging on.

Jess Sullivan and Frankie Marston represented Samurai in the ladies lightweights. Sullivan had a good win against a player from Leeds University but then lost to a Welsh player to end her chances of reaching the final, though she came back well to win the bronze.

Marston, aged just 14, started superbly with three maximum-point wins but her Welsh opponent in the final always held the edge.

In the heavyweights, Laura Dangerfield, in her first competition since returning to the sport, won through to the final against a Bromsgrove player, who she held for maximum points to take the gold medal.

Sullivan and Dangerfield took bronze and silver respectively in the women's open category.

Opening win with Carr's five

Wormelow (1pt) 126, Bewdley (20pts) 129-4. Bewdley won by six wickets.

BEWDLEY Cricket Club firsts got their season off to a successful start at Lower Park on a day where the rain unexpectedly stayed away.

Winning an important toss, Bewdley took wickets at regular intervals and although six Wormelow batsmen reached double figures, none got as far as 30.

The visitors were bowled out for 126 with Martyn Carr (5-39) the pick of the bowlers. He took the first three wickets then returned to mop up the last two. David Jones (2-24) and Mike Harris (2-16) supported him well.

Bewdley were left with 56 overs to reach their target, and after the early loss of the prolific Nick Wilkinson, Paul Beard (43) and Simon Mauger steadied the ship. Both were out with 50 still needed, but Rob Combes and Matt Cowdery saw Bewdley home.

Dominies fall to Lee

Stourport (24pts) 163, Worcester Dominies (4pts) 66. Stourport won by 97 runs

PROMOTED Stourport enjoyed a winning start to their Division Two campaign.

Put in, they made a comfortable start with an opening stand of 67 between Steven Yarsley (33) and Christian Parry (30).

Tight bowling and poor shot selection saw them reduced to 163 all out. No 3 batsman Andrew Siwicki last out for a fine 64.

In reply, the Stourport bowlers were always on top with Lee Waldron enjoying a dream 5-22 debut as Dominies were skittled for 66.

Lights go out for under-16s

Moseley U16 58
K'minster Carolians U16 19

KIDDERMINSTER'S under-16s made their first appearance under floodlights in the semi-final of the rugby Plate competition but lost to a good Moseley side.

Carolians opened the scoring, but trailed 20-7 at half-time. Moseley pulled clear in the second half, but Kidderminster fought to the end. Dave Bisset, James Davies and Mitch Dwyers were the try scorers. Bisset landing two conversions.

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SPORT

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Judo players star on home mats
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High five
Carr in the wickets as cricket season starts
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Sports Desk 01902 319461 e-mail: chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

District football results, fixtures

Results
Saturday

Premier: Areley Kings 0 Kings Heath OB 2; Birch Coppice 2 Kinver 2; Claverley 3 Burlish Olympic 3; Dudley Villa 8 Castlecroft Rgrs 0; Netherton Ath 2 Lodgefield Pk 0;Oldswinford Harriers 1 Dudley Wood Ath 4; Orton Vale 1 Claverley Colts 2; Claverley Colts 3 Orton Vale 4; Wyre For 2 Two Gates 6.

Sunday

Premier: Bromley 1 Oakham Utd 2; Franche Village Club 4 New Olympic 0; Grange Ath 8 Wordsley 0; Harriers Trust 2 Wolverley Ath 2; Kingswinford 4 Honved 0; Orton Vale 3 Dudley Sp 0.

Division 1: Sporting Oak 3 Waggon & Horses 1; Station 5 Stour Park Rgrs 0; Swan Bewdley 2 Bull & Bladder 0; Bull & Bladder 1 Swan Bewdley 0; WH Sports 1 Phoenix Sports 10; Wilden Village 0 Sporting Hagley 0; Sporting Hagley 4 Wilden Village 0.

Division 2: Kewford Eagles 0 Gornal Wood 3; New Inn Sports 3 Chaddesley Corbett 3; Snooks 2 Areley Kings 0; Stourbridge Glassboys A White Horse Celtic A; TS Units 6 Cally 1; Wall Heath 4 Stourbridge Rgrs 4.

Division 3: Dudley 6 Plough Dukes 2; Rock Sports 1 Darby End Ath 3; Royal Exchange 9 Wordsley Lions 2; Sporting Club 3 Bewdley Arches 4; Wollaston Celtic 1 Mostyn Rgrs 0; Maypole Rgrs 1 Arley 5.

Division 4: Ferndale 4 Wollaston Lions 2; Labour In Vain 3 Withymoor 5; Lakeside Utd 3 Vizi Bar 1; Netherton 6 Wilden Village Res 4; Netherton Colts Sen 2 Stour Glassboys West 0; Snooks Ath 1 Pockets 1; Wolverley Social 2 Clarkes 5.

Division 5: Abberley Vale 3 Royal Exchange Res 0; Areley Kings Res 2 Hamilton Rgrs 1; Harriers Arms 2 King Billy 3; Queens Head 1 Tap House 2; The Brit Wollaston 1 Preston 2010 1; Withymoor West 2 Hillgrove 1.

Fixtures
Saturday

Premier: Burlish Olympic v Dudley Villa; Castlecroft Rgrs v Birch Coppice; Claverley Colts v Oldswinford Harriers; Dudley Wood Athletic v Netherton Athletic; Kings Heath Old Boys v Two Gates; Lodgefield Park v Kinver; Wyre Forest v Areley Kings.

Sunday

Premier: Franche Village Club v Alveley Social; Grange Athletic v Oakham United; Honved v Harriers Trust; Wolverley Athletic v Bromley; Woodside United v Kingswinford; Wordsley AFC v New Olympic.

Division 1: Chainwire v Swan Bewdley; Haden Rgrs v WH Sports; Phoenix Sports v Waggon & Horses; Sporting Hagley v Stour Park Rgrs; Sporting Oak v Bull & Bladder; Station v Wilden Village.

Division 2: Areley Kings v Cally; Chaddesley Corbett v Snooks; Gornal Wood v White Horse Celtic; Kewford Eagles v Wall Heath; Stourbridge Rgrs v New Inn Sports; TS Units v Stourbridge Glassboys.

Division 3: Darby End Athletic v Mostyn Rgrs; Dudley v Bewdley Arches; H R's Sports Bar v Arley; Maypole Rgrs v Wollaston Celtic; Rock Sports v Wordsley Lions; Royal Exchange v Plough Dukes; Stourbridge Athletic v Sporting Club.

Division 4: Clarkes v Lakeside United; Labour In Vain v Ferndale; Netherton v Stour Glassboys West; Pockets v Netherton Colts Sen; Vizi Bar v Wyre Forest Harriers; Wilden Village Res v Wollaston Lions; Withymoor v Snooks Athletic.

Division 5: Forest Rgrs v Royal Exchange Res; Hamilton Rgrs v Preston 2010; Heta v The Brit Wollaston; King Billy v Areley Kings Res; Queens Head v Harriers Arms; Tap House v Abberley Vale.

League tables – Page 31

Carolians end their season in style

Cheltenham North 15 Kidderminster Carolians 34

KIDDERMINSTER rounded off their season with a convincing bonus-point win at bottom-of-the-table Cheltenham North to climb above Banbury and finish in a respectable eighth place in Midlands Two West (South).

They did not start well, conceding a try inside the first two minutes, ***writes Martin Easton.***

The visitors' inside centre punched a huge hole in KCs' defence and had sufficient support to get over the line for a 5-0 lead.

It took only five minutes for Kidderminster to respond. They won a lineout on North's 22m line and moved the ball left to winger James Whitehouse, who off-loaded to full-back Mark James to level the score, Andy McLellan's conversion hitting a post.

Seven minutes later, KCs went in front after winning a scrum against the head to set up ruck ball, which they moved right and left, Whitehouse exchanging passes with prop Matt Rigsby and scoring.

They extended their lead to 17-5 midway through the half when they won a penalty after a burst by centre Jake Evetts and kicked to touch. From the lineout, No.8 Layton Wilkinson drove over and McLellan added the extras – but the hosts quickly hit back from a scrum on KC's 22m line. Moving the ball along their threes, North reduced the deficit to 17-10. Ten minutes from the break a Cheltenham player was yellow-carded for killing a KC lineout move.

North had a big escape on the stroke of half-time when Carolians knocked on with the line at their mercy.

Ten minutes into the second half another cynical late tackle on McLellan resulted in a yellow for North's No.8.

Five minutes later Carolians swept upfield and a penetrating run by Evetts put McLellan in under the posts for a bonus-point try which he converted. Another dominant scrum sparked more good passages of play by Kidderminster, but they suffered an unexpected setback when a defensive mix-up allowed North's outside centre to cross and reduce the deficit to 24-15.

However, that was as good as it got for the home side as KCs took control and five minutes later a clean catch and elusive run by scrum-half Chris Pinner led to a five-metre scrum at which Cheltenham were penalised. Kidder took the three points from McLellan's penalty and wing Nick Martin to ran in a fifth try, improved by McLellan.

Cheltenham briefly threatened, but a crunching tackle by replacement Scott Lovell stopped the move.

VINCENT GIVEN THE BENEFIT OF BREAK

KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS midfielder James Vincent has been hailed as "better for the break" after his return to the team for the final throes of the season.

Vincent has started the last four games since he was recalled to the side to replace Kyle Storer, who was starting a two-match ban for picking up 10 yellow cards.

by Craig Birch

Another mantle was there to pick up when Jack Byrne bowed out with a hamstring injury in the following match, leaving a void in the middle of the park for Kidderminster.

Among those stepping up to the plate is Vincent, displaying the kind of form that made him a fixture earlier in the season, when he made 16 starting appearances.

The 21-year-old saw his progress curtailed by a knee injury in January which forced him to miss a number of games, such as the return to former club Stockport County.

Claims

But he's in the team heading towards the finish line – with his contract up in the summer – and could get the chance next season to add to what will be 31 overall games.

Assistant manager Gary Whild claims a spell out of the firing line has done the player the world of good.

Whild said: "He is another one who is at a very good, young age. He probably wouldn't agree but I think that being out of the side benefitted him.

"Sometimes you are able to look and see things that you don't notice when you're playing.

"Vinny is the type of lad who knows football and he's taken that knowledge. He's watched and learned and has improved since he's come back into the team."

Saturday's swansong against Mansfield in the Blue Square Premier could be the end of the line for a number of players.

But Vincent's ability is in keeping with the profile that management have looked for when recruiting for the playing squad.

This season is his first in non-league and he boasts experience at League One and League Two level through his time at Edgeley Park.

Instructions from the dugout and on the training field ring out constantly that the ball stays on the deck, Whild said.

"The types of characters we look to bring in are the types that want to get on the ball and play and express themselves," he said.

"We say to the lads that, if you give the ball away, don't go hiding – keep looking for the ball and keep looking to play."

Kidderminster's play-off hopes suffered a blow with Saturday's loss at Luton.

It left the Harriers hoping that Luton's midweek match would still leave them with everything to play for at the weekend.

Robbie Willmott scores the only goal of the game as Kidderminster lose at Luton

Harriers battle in vain as the home team take the points in pursuit of a play-off spot

Russ hits target for nervy win

Bewdley Tn 2 Dudley Tn 1

BEWDLEY took a nervy West Midlands Premier victory over Dudley.

The home team started well and Dudley goalkeeper James Trevalen had to pull off a couple of good saves.

Bewdley finally broke the deadlock after 15 minutes when Richard Burgess fired home.

But they suffered a setback when Chris Seekings had to be taken off with a knee injury, replaced by Simon Rudd.

Dudley equalised late in the half when Dan Flowers gave the ball away on the halfway line. Dreniz Bala linked with Rion Francis-Miller, whose shot had just enough on it to creep over the line, despite keeper Darren Steadman's attempt to claw it away.

Dudley had the better of the second-half possession. But a combination of missed shots and Steadman saves prevented them taking the lead.

Twenty minutes from the end, Bewdley took the lead when Russ Godfrey fired home from just inside the box.

Dudley fought back but could not find an equalising goal.

Batsmen run riot for win in knockout

Wolverhampton 201-5, Kidderminster Victoria 202-1. KVCC won by nine wickets

BIG KNOCKS by Neil Pinner and Andy Kimberlin took Kidderminster Victoria to a comfortable win in the Williamson Trophy Plate.

Pinner made 89 not out with Kimberlin undefeated on 86 as KVCC marched into the next round, ***writes Brian Gittins.***

Kidderminster won the toss and put the visitors in. They lost two wickets for only 26 runs after 11 overs.

Aaron Jeavons was caught by Jonathan Wright off Gareth Williams for nine and Vishal Triparthy was out for a single, caught Matt Pardoe to give Connnor Smith his first wicket for the club following his switch from Old Hill.

A stand of 90 gave the visitors more hope, but Danny Bowyer, having scored 53, including three sixes, was caught by Andy Kimberlin off Richard Kimberlin. The 90 runs came in 19 overs.

The score rose to 157 when Simon Lycett was caught by Pardoe off Williams for 10. Only 10 more runs were added when Alex Grant was stumped by Tom Kimberlin for seven off the bowling of Pinner.

It was left to Karl Quiney to give the score a boost and he finished on 103 not out, including five sixes and eight fours, off 115 balls.

Gareth Williams took 2-40.

KVCC made a disastrous start, losing opener Pardoe for a second-ball duck, but Kimberlin and Pinner put some indifferent bowling to the sword,

The league season starts on Saturday and Kidderminster have a tough noon encounter at Barnt Green.

Next day they host Fordhouses in the national knockout (1pm).

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